MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 NOVEMBER 1981

Israel

Knesset Debate -- IDF radio broadcast excerpts from Prime Minister Menahem Begin's concluding speech in the Knesset debate in which he claimed that Israel can destroy the Syrian missiles in Lebanon "within 2 hours" with no Israeli Air Force casualties. However, since the United States has declared its intention of removing the missiles and restoring the status quo ante through the diplomatic endeavors of Philip Habib, Begin indicated, there is no hurry to destroy them. Asking the opposition why they are "in such a hurry," Begin accused them of "pouring oil on the fire" and inciting war with Syria. In other excerpts of his remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio, the prime minister told the Knesset that if the Syrian missiles were preventing Israeli reconnaissance flights over Lebanon "we would not wait for any visit from anyone." Confirming that the missiles are causing Israel "some troubles," he said that nevertheless Israel is still able to conduct frequent reconnaissance flights over Lebanon. Israel will wait for Habib's next round of diplomacy, Begin asserted, but if there is no other alternative, Israel will "really destroy" the Syrian missiles.

IDF radio reported that Begin also told the Knesset that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon had just received an invitation to visit Washington on 30 November to discuss strategic cooperation and that an IDF delegation will precede him to prepare for his visit. Begin said Israel intends to reach a significant agreement with the United States.

According to Jerusalem radio, the Knesset approved a government coalition proposal rejecting the European initiative, affirming that Israel will not negotiate over the Saudi peace plan with anyone and pledging to honor all Israel's commitments in the Camp David accords.

Comment on Israeli-U.S. Relations -- Commenting on recent problems in U.S.-Israeli relations, Jerusalem radio said the United States is using the Saudi peace plan "as a whip against Israel" so that if no progress is made in the autonomy talks, the United States will "make use of" the plan more extensively. The radio also reported that in his recent meeting with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis, Defense Minister Sharon reacted to Lewis' demand that Israel deny its claims that the United States is supplying arms to Iraq via Jordan and Saudi Arabia by threatening to publicize proof of the shipments. The radio said Israel expects the United States to unequivocally announce that it is abandoning the Saudi plan, is sending a high-ranking representative to the autonomy talks and is continuing its efforts to achieve a settlement in Lebanon.

Jordan

Amman radio noted the end of talks in Washington between King Husayn and President Reagan and reported that the king had thanked his host for the opportunity to meet for talks that were "frank and open" on all issues of common concern. King Husayn said both sides share the hope for a just and comprehensive peace, adding that this visit to Washington has given him "more confidence in and reassurance about the future" than any previous trip.

Saudi Arabia

SPA reported on 4 November that King Khalid received British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington. The previous evening, SPA noted Lord Carrington's arrival in Riyadh for a 3-day visit to discuss regional issues and bilateral relations with his Saudi counterpart, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. Earlier, SPA reported that PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat departed the Kingdom after a short visit in which he met with King Khalid, Crown Prince Fahd and other high-ranking officials.

According to the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, 'Arafat said in a predeparture statement that his talks with the Saudis had focused on regional problems, the forthcoming Arab summit conference and Israeli military threats against southern Lebanon. Citing an interview given by 'Arafat in Saudi Arabia to the Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA', KUNA reported that the PLO leader reemphasized that he welcomes Prince Fahd's peace plan and called on the United States to declare "a frank and clear stand" on it.

Egypt

AL-WATAN on Detainees -- The Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN reported that the release of political prisoners will begin after 15 November, once the mourning period for President Anwar as-Sadat has lapsed. The paper stated that it has been decided that to release any detainees before that date would give the appearance of an open retreat from As-Sadat's domestic policies.

Security Situation -- MENA noted that at a Cabinet meeting chaired by President Husni Mubarak, Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il explained that 700 members of "the terrorist organization" have been arrested since June.

Libya

Plot Against Al-Qadhdhafi -- Tripoli radio cited numerous news media sources in a report that a plot against the life of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has been planned for between 10 and 15 November, to coincide with the U.S.-Egyptian military maneuvers. The radio said the plot will be preceded by the strategic bombing by B-52's of territory within Libyan borders. The radio added that U.S. intelligence units have been monitoring the Libyan leader's movements for months in preparation for this operation.

Withdrawal From Chad -- AFP reported that Libyan troops and armor were seen leaving Chad on the orders of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, who telephoned his wishes personally to the troop commander in Ndjamena. This was in response to last week's request from Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei for an end to the 11-month Libyan military presence in his country. Monitored Libyan media have not mentioned the withdrawal.

Iran

Qotbzadeh Exile -- The Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH reported that former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh has fled Iran and arrived in Paris, where he will unite with former President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and Mojahedin-e Khalq leader Mas'ud Rajavi.

Security Situation -- Several PARS and Tehran radio reports indicated that over the past few days 31 Kurdish rebels were killed and another 26 arrested. Furthermore, four Mojahedin were killed in clashes with the authorities and seven others were arrested. PARS also noted that Kurdish rebels burned to death four employees of Tehran's communications department whom they had captured. AFP cited JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI as saying that 8 persons died and 12 were seriously injured outside Kamyaran when a bus they were traveling in detonated a mine.

Afghanistan

Clandestine Radios -- AFP reported that three clandestine radios have recently begun broadcasting inside Afghanistan. One transmitter -- Radio Free Kabul -- has aroused official anger against France because two French technicians helped set it up, while another has been broadcasting appeals by Russian dissidents to Soviet troops.

Rebels Captured, Soviets Killed -- Kabul radio reported that 150 rebels were captured recently in Lowgar and Vardak Provinces. According to PARS, 9 Soviet soldiers were killed and 3 were captured in Herat Province during the past week.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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AL-ANBA' INTERVIEWS 'ARAFAT ON SAUDI TALKS

LD040946 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0813 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Nov (KUNA) -- The Kuwaiti AL-ANBA' reports today that the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Yasir 'Arafat, said he supports a plan made public by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to settle the Arab-Israeli dispute.

The paper said the Palestinian leader was talking to its correspondent in Riyadh after his meeting with King Khalid and with Deputy Prime Minister Prince Fahd, during a brief visit to Saudi Arabia yesterday. It added that 'Arafat told the correspondent the meeting was "hot," and that the two sides discussed the plan put forward by Prince Fahd last August.

According to the newspaper, 'Arafat said: "I have more than once declared my welcome for the Saudi plan and the proposals put forward by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for peace in the region." He added, "Once more I stress my welcome for Prince Fahd's proposals because they stress that real and just peace cannot be achieved except by recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, and primarily their right to establish their future state with its capital, Jerusalem."

The Saudi plan calls for the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital and for the complete withdrawal of Israel from occupied Arab territory, and for recognizing the right of all states of the Middle East to live in peace.

The Palestinian leader said the Saudi peace proposals will be debated at the Arab summit conference in Morocco at the end of this month. He called on the United States to declare "a frank and clear stand" on Prince Fahd's plan. He said he "could not say there is full American support for this plan, and what President Reagan has said about the Saudi plan is insufficient."

The American Administration changed its stand on this plan after the Saudi AWACS deal was approved a week ago and said it saw some positive points in the plan. Its previous stand was [words indistinct] did not include anything new.

According to the statements published by AL-ANBA', 'Arafat said he did not know of the existence of any Arab contacts with the regime of new Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. He pointed out that the Arab stand regarding the present Egyptian regime will not change unless President Mubarak "adopts a new policy other than the policy of the late President Anwar as-Sadat."

The paper reported an official Palestinian source as saying the Saudi-Palestinian talks also dealt with 'Arafat's visit to the Soviet Union last month, current Arab conditions, and the situation in Lebanon. 'Arafat told Saudi officials that he "expects the Zionist enemy to carry out a large-scale aggression against southern Lebanon in the next few days in order to divert attention from the political crisis they are facing."

'ARAFAT MEETS SYRIA'S RIF'AT AL-ASAD 2 NOV

JN021914 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] This afternoon, leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with Dr Rif'at al-Asad, Arab socialist Ba'th Party regional command member. Brothers Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] and Rashid al-Muqaddam, secretary general of the Democratic Arab Party [Al-Hizb al-'Arabi ad-Dimuqrati], attended the meeting. Talks revolved around the Arab domestic and international issues in light of the recent developments in the region, particularly the Zionist threats against Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution, as well as against Syria and the Arab nation.

AL-MUSTAQBAL INTERVIEW WITH PLO'S ABU IYAD

JN011537 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 31 Oct 81 pp 34-39

[AL-MUSTAQBAL correspondent Ghassan Bayran interview of Fatah Executive Committee member Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, in Beirut on 21 October]

[Excerpts] [Question] Anwar as-Sadat was a stage that left its influence, stamp and outline on the Arab cause and on the conflict with Israel. Therefore, I do not now want to ask about Egypt or the Arabs after as-Sadat, but about the Palestinian resistance, whether or not Anwar as-Sadat's stage continues through President Husni Mubarak. What do you think about the cause's future in light of events?

[Answer] First, I believe As-Sadat's fate was expected. I call this fate a death sentence carried out against him by the Egyptian people. Some West Europeans may consider our stand on his fate as a sort of gloating, but we think it was an execution in a grave political situation in the Arab world as well as an execution to counter a political trend that has actually disrupted Arab forces.

Regarding this question, it is true that As-Sadat is gone, but I believe that his trend is continuing, perhaps in a weak and noncritical manner, because Husni Mubarak represents a stage between As-Sadat and what will happen after As-Sadat. This stage may continue to exist, but I do not expect it to for more than 6 months. One of two eventualities will happen; either there will be an Israeli withdrawal from Sinai or there will not. In both cases the fate of this transitional stage, the stage of Husni Mubarak, will be sealed.

The Egyptian people are now worried about the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai. There are patriots both inside and outside the army. They are afraid of undertaking any action that may be interpreted as a reason for not withdrawing. However, whether Israel withdraws or not, they have reason to move. Therefore, we cannot now say that the resistance has won. It is true that morally it has won because it has become well known that anyone who betrays the cause will have the same fate. However, the trend has not yet ended, because it still exists, although in a weak form. We can say that our happiness is not yet complete.

[Question] Prince Fahd's plan for a Middle East solution has now been submitted as a criterion to measure the existence or nonexistence of Arab solidarity. Do you think that this plan is suitable as a basis for Arab solidarity? What is your stand on it?

[Answer] The seventh article of the plan conflicts with the Palestinian national charter. We have no right to discuss this plan and no Palestinian leader is entitled to accept this plan as a whole. Any talk about this seventh article may divide the Palestinians, something we do not need at this stage. What we need is a deepening of the Palestinian stand. Hence, I say that this plan cannot be a criterion for Arab solidarity. We were supposed to discuss this plan among ourselves before it was submitted. This plan has not been discussed with us. The last time I visited Saudi Arabia with Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], this plan was not discussed at all. We were surprised to see it in the press. Therefore, I do not agree to submitting a plan containing an article that conflicts with my cause. This is the seventh article. I do not agree to submitting the plan to the summit conference as a basis for Arab solidarity. Moreover, I cannot approve it at the summit conference before I discuss it and approve it in the Palestine National Council [PNC].

[Question] You are, therefore, against submitting the plan to the Arab summit conference in Fes.

[Answer] I am not against submitting or discussing anything, but I say that no official, whether he is Brother Abu 'Ammar, I or others, can accept Prince Fahd's plan with its eight points, including the seventh article. This subject must be discussed at the PNC. In principle, I am against any plan in which concessions are made in advance. Within this framework, I think that the timing of the plan and the points it contains should have been submitted for discussion with the Palestinian leadership first and then submitted to the Arabs after modifying it to be acceptable.

As-Sadat used to say: I have Camp David, so what alternatives do the Arabs have? He thought that in this way he could weaken the Arab stand, beliving that the Arabs have no alternatives. However, I can say that the Arabs have many alternatives. They can strengthen themselves and consolidate their solidarity as an Arab nation. We have a thousand ways of strengthening joint Arab action.

[Question] In order to clarify matters, how does the Palestinian resistance interpret the seventh article of Prince Fahd's plan on coexistence with Israel?

[Answer] Coexistence means recognition of Israel. There is an article in the Palestinian national charter on the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil without any condition on the recognition of Israel or any talk about this subject. I say that the right to recognition is a basic condition for national sovereignty. As a member of the Palestinian revolution and the PLO I cannot recognize Israel. The subject of recognition is the right of the Palestinian state and national sovereignty. I am not a state to recognize or not recognize. This is the business of sovereign states. Several foreign and even Arab states sever relations with one another. Do you want me to name the Arab states which have severed their relations with other Arab states? Many of these states have even declared war among themselves. Where is the logic in demanding that the PLO, whose land is usurped and occupied and whose people are under occupation, recognize its enemy, which usurped its land and killed its people?

[Question] Prince Fahd's plan comprises a group of articles. The seventh article is one of several which talk about recognition, coexistence, the Palestinian state and the return of Jerusalem. This means that it is an integral plan which has a certain degree of balance. So why is there previously proposed a peace plan which is very similar to Prince Fahd's plan? Why do we support the latter and not the former?

[Answer] This is the Soviet Union and not an Arab state. There is, for example, the European stand. If we were to compare it with other stands I would say that the French stand, for example, is more advanced than the FRG stand. However, these foreign stands cannot be compared with the Arab stand. In its capacity as a superpower, the Soviet Union can only say that it wants all neighboring states to have the right to peace. I do not blame it, because it is the Soviet Union and not an Arab state. However, I believe it is wrong for an Arab state to say it wants coexistence.

[Question] For a long time we have heard a kind of dialogue that has no beginning or end. We say that, for us to recognize Israel, Israel has to recognize the PLO. Some states reply to this by saying the contrary. The Americans say we shall not recognize or hold dialogue with the PLO unless it recognizes Israel. Does all this talk have any basis or background pertaining to contacts being held or does it merely constitute slogans being raised? What in your opinion is the best way to implement such talk in practical steps?

[Answer] I believe that all talk to the effect that if Israel recognizes the PLO the latter will recognize it or reflecting such logic is moving in a vicious circle and is basically a European way of saying things. Actually, all those coming from abroad; from Europe, the United States or other countries, pose such an issue and have nothing else to say. However, I say that all those raising such an issue do not want a solution.

Indeed, those who want a solution do not ask the Palestinians such questions. The Palestinians must not be asked their opinion of an enemy who occupied their territory and killed their people. They must not be asked whether they recognize or do not recognize this enemy. Nor should the Palestinians be asked to recognize the enemy so that this enemy can hold a dialogue with them. This is not a method that will lead to a solution. The solution lies in posing such a question to the Palestinian only after this Palestinian finds himself on his own territory. Speaking of the issue of recognition, allow me to ask: On what basis should such a recognition take place? There is a UN Security Council resolution on dividing Palestine. Should recognition be based on such a resolution? Or on the basis of the West Bank and Gaza? Or on another basis? There are many questions. The United States is being subjected to some pressure by its friends in the Arab region and it finds nothing to offer to them except to say: Let the PLO recognize Israel so that we can hold a dialogue with it. The United States, its intelligence and agents, all know that it is impossible for the Palestinians to recognize Israel. If the United States wants a solution, why does it not attend a conference with the Soviet Union and say: This is the solution. Will you or will you not accept it? Then the Arab states and the PLO will either accept or reject such a solution. However, so far, no seriousness has been manifested. There have only been attempts to disregard the Palestinian people's rights and even the PLO and any solution that can give the Palestinians their legitimate rights.

[Question] As you have previously mentioned, there is a UN resolution to divide Palestine. This means that the United States has for a long time recognized the Palestinians' right to a state.

[Answer] True, this exists.

[Question] Then why will this issue not be raised again on the international level as a basis for discussing the solution to the region's crisis. What is your opinion on this?

[Answer] This issue must be discussed with the Arabs. However, this issue was raised by the mass media before. In fact it was politically raised in the United Nations more than once when it was stated that, in accordance with the partition resolution, the United States recognizes the Palestinians' right to a state and that there is a part called the state of Israel and another part called the state of Palestine. However, the United States has so far not been subjected to any pressure to make it recognize and acknowledge such a reality, because no Arab state can apply pressure on it to do this. Indeed, it is the United States which say, let the PLO recognize Israel so that we can hold a dialogue with it. There are some who ask you: Why do you not recognize Israel? Well, why should I recognize Israel and what is the price? They are always trying to make matters far too trivial. Anwar as-Sadat went to the Israelis, recognize them and established relations with them. Yet, so far, and even from his grave, he has not been able to get autonomy from them for the Palestinians, despite all the concessions he made at the expense of Egypt and Egypt's independence. As-Sadat did not even get the autonomy which is rejected by our people. If such is As-Sadat's experience with Isarel, what would it be like if we asked for a Palestinian state which has Jerusalem for its capital and the PLO for its leader?

[Question] The struggle and confrontation in the region has at this stage taken on new and wider dimensions. It has developed and we have begun to feel that confrontation between the two superpowers is expected to further escalate in the coming stage. Do you expect that the Palestinian revolution will be the target, or will its field of operation be wider?

[Answer] In this we are not and will not be neutral. It is true that our size is small, but I believe that we have a large moral role and influence to play in this international struggle. In this international struggle we are biased toward the Soviet Union out of national and pan-Arab concepts. Moscow has recognized the PLO office as an embassy. This is not an ordinary decision, but a large-scale political one, because this is a recognition of the Palestinian state and all our legitimate national rights.

What do we have before us in return? We have the United States making an alliance with an enemy that is planning to kill us. Therefore, we will be biased toward the Soviet Union in any possible confrontation because the United States is for us the same as Israel.

It is the United States that is supplying our enemy with life and power to kill us. Therefore, our field of operation would be broader in any conflict. However, when relations between the two superpowers are either frozen or improving, our field of operation will be narrower, because they will single us out. When a broad front is opened, our field of operation will be wider.

How much we wish that the United States would descend upon us. We say this not out of our love for war or out of boasting of our ability to fight it, but because when the American comes to the region, the Soviet will be forced to move. The conflict will then be wide and the field of our operations will be broader. I hope that my words will not be misinterpreted. I am not calling for a third or fourth world war. I have a cause which gets larger whenever the conflict gets larger, because I consider the United States my enemy and Israel the ugliest part of U.S. policy. Therefore, when I see a superpower standing by my side against the United States, I am the beneficiary in this confrontation. Accordingly, I told you that in this confrontation we are biased.

[Question] According to you, and contrary to what some believe, we are not on the threshold of a search for a solution but still in the stage of fact gathering. But there has been talk for some time that there is a solution in the offing. The Europeans are moving in this direction and the Americans are discussing certain concessions. Even some prominent Palestinian resistance leaders have expressed their conviction that 1982 will be the year of a comprehensive settlement. What is your opinion?

[Answer] I still believe that we are not on the threshold of a solution. I can also say that, if the confrontation I have already talked about happens, it may expedite a solution. A nonconfrontation will not expedite a solution because freezing matters benefits Israel and the United States. Precipitating this confrontation benefits us and our cause. The wider the circle of conflict gets the better. So what is the scope of a solution? We have for years been hearing about a European initiative. Where is this initiative? I challenge the Europeans to put forward an initiative. During the stagnation period which accompanied the discussion of autonomous rule, the Europeans may have had some scattered ideas, which they submitted to delude the Arabs and preoccupy them, preventing them from confronting the United States. They were also meant to preoccupy us. Where is their initiative in actual practice? We must not have delusions about the existence of such an initiative. We have gone to Europe, Tokyo, France and the entire world. I am for this political move, but no European initiative was submitted to us at all. Only a few questions were submitted during the meetings attended by Brother Abu 'Ammar and Brother Abu al-Lutf. We responded to them. They were the same questions and replies we've had every 6 months, that is, whenever the head of the European group changed.

However, the framework of a solution has not been present, not during nor after As-Sadat's time. Any solution that is not based on guaranteeing Arab interests is rejected. We cannot achieve the settlement we want, but any other settlement will be a U.S.-Israeli settlement based on the concessions offered by As-Sadat. Therefore, why should we preoccupy ourselves with nonexistent solutions and delusions? And why should we burn ourselves in these delusions and leave our people to live on them?

[Question] There is another subject about which there is a great deal of clamor. Even prior to the recent war in the south, there was talk about an indirect dialogue between the PLO and the United States through the mediation of certain Arab countries or some international quarters. Within which framework are these contacts going on? What stage have they reached? Can you shed some light on this subject?

[Answer] I tell you that, from Reagan down to the most junior official in the U.S. Administration, they are stating daily that they are not ready to hold a dialogue with the PLO unless it recognizes Israel.

I personally have no knowledge of any direct or indirect contacts with the Americans. However, what is happening is that, when a dialogue is conducted with us, some Arab countries do it on behalf of the Americans. A real political dialogue is not one on a cease-fire or similar things. A dialogue on a search for a solution has never taken place. We do not choose Arab countries to hold a dialogue with us on behalf of the Americans, but some Arab countries do speak to us on behalf of the Americans. Sometimes, it is America which selects specific Arab countries to hold a dialogue with us. However, to hold a dialogue on what? Only on partial matters. This is the whole affair.

[Question] Despite the existence of numerous common points of agreement between you and Syria -- most, if not all these points are strategic ones -- every now and then particularly recently, there is whispering about tension and coolness in this relationship. What is your opinion?

[Answer] When I say that the relationship with Syria is a strategic one, it is because there are several basic broad lines which link us together. We and the brothers in Syria are indeed in one trench against the Camp David accords and against As-Sadat's deviation and course. We are tied to Syria also through our common confrontation with Israel. We and the Syrians are shouldering the burdens of this confrontation almost alone.

Resistance against the Camp David process, that is, the repulse of U.S. imperialism in all its forms in the region; the actual confrontation with the Israeli danger; the fight against any deviation in Egypt from the Arab line, both through As-Sadat and through his successor Husni Mubarak; and the entrenchment of Lebanon's unity, security and stability and many other issues which I do not need to enumerate are all in need of a deep trench that specifies our common strategic objectives with Syria.

As for details, there will inevitably be some differences, since the ideology in Syria differs from our ideology in some details. However, we should focus on broad lines and general principles, not on details. These details can erode the strategic line which joins us together. This is what we should focus on and seek to prevent.

I would like to assert to all the enemies of this relationship that we and the Syrians are in one trench. We will never allow anyone from far or near to create a confrontation between us. This is absolutely unlikely.

[Question] Therefore, under what circumstances will the events of 1976 not be repeated?

[Answer] They will certainly not be repeated under any circumstances.

UK'S CARRINGTON BRIEFS MIDEAST PRESS BEFORE TRIP

LD021608 Kuwait KUNA in English 1510 GMT 2 Nov 81

[By Simon Hall]

[Text] London, 2 Nov (KUNA) -- The 10-strong European Economic Community has agreed in principle to participate in the proposed Sinai peace-keeping force, British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington said here Monday.

Speaking at a briefing for the Middle East press shortly before leaving for Saudi Arabia, where he will discuss the eight-point Saudi Middle East peace plan, the British minister admitted that the U.S. request for European involvement in the force had presented the community with "some difficulty." We have always been anxious to have a European position comparable but separate from the U.S., he said.

However, it was important that Arab lands should be returned to Arab governments -- if we declined to help it would make a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East more difficult, he went on. If Europe did not join the force, then there was a danger that no credible peacekeeping force could be formed, which in turn would put at risk the return to Egypt by Israel of the Sinai planned for next April, Lord Carrington said.

The British foreign secretary added that no formal announcement by the Europeans had yet been issued because officials in the community were still arguing over the wording of the statement.

European participation still could not be taken for granted, because officials from any of the 10 community members still had to agree the wording, he went on.

Lord Carrington took pains to emphasize that Europe was not involved in the other aspects of the Sinai agreement. The Europeans would not be involved in the autonomy talks, which "do not have a very high chance of success."

He said he hoped there would be understanding from the Arab world when the European decision was formally announced. If we had not accepted the U.S. invitation to join the force, then there was a danger that "the return of Sinai would not have gone on," he said.

Moving on to discuss his visit to Riyadh, which starts Tuesday, Lord Carrington said the main purpose of it was to talk to Crown Prince Fahd and Prince Saud about the eight "principles" of the Saudi Mideast peace plan.

He had already had short discussions with Crown Prince Fahd about "this very important statement" in Mexico and in London.

The eight points "don't seem at all incompatible" with the principles outlined in Europe's own Venice Declaration on Middle East peace, he said.

He would be talking to the Saudis on behalf of the European Community to see what "the next step would be" for the Saudi proposals, which he described as a "negotiating position." In his capacity as British foreign secretary, he would also be discussing bilateral matters, including trade and defence co-operation, Lord Carrington added.

On the Saudi eight-point plan he said there were two items that Europe could not agree with, but he thought these could be resolved because the plan, as it stood, was a negotiating position.

The fifth point in the Saudi plan called for the West Bank and Gaza to be brought under UN sponsorship for a transitional period lasting only a few months, he noted. Europe could not go along with that time scale, he said.

Point Six, which called for Jerusalem to be the capital of an independent Palestinian state, could "create problems," he said, without elaborating further.

The British minister said he was "sorry" over Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's total rejection of the Saudi plan. Begin, speaking on U.S. television yesterday, described it as a plan to liquidate Israel.

The seventh point in the Saudi plan implicitly recognised the rights of all states in the region to live in peace, but the Israeli leader had discarded the proposal, Lord Carrington said. I hope that in the end, Menahem Begin accepts the Saudi proposals as "a possible basis for negotiation."

"There is movement on the Arab side and on the U.S. side. I hope that there will be movement on the Israeli side," he added.

In the last year or two the Palestine Liberation Organisation had become "more positive" in its attitude, Lord Carrington said. However, Britain would not recognise formally an organisation, only a state.

He said that the fact that PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat was expected to be in Saudi Arabia at the same time as he would be there was a coincidence, and that "no arrangements" had been made for them to meet each other.

Lord Carrington said that no major developments in the search for Middle East peace were anticipated before the planned withdrawal from Sinai. What Europe was trying to do was to help those involved in the peace process get into a position where they could start negotiations, after the Israeli withdrawal, he added. "In the end, there will have to be negotiations," and hence there was need to develop something to negotiate over, he said. Ultimately, there would have to be an international conference where everyone would have to give their approval to any settlement, including the Soviet Union, Lord Carrington went on.

It was too early to say whether the assassination of President as-Sadat, which he "deplored," would change things in the Middle East "for the better or for the worse," he said.

ADDITIONS TO AN-NAHAR 'ARAFAT INTERVIEW 30 OCT

The following additions to the item entitled "Beirut's AN-NAHAR 'Arafat Interview" published in the 3 November Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT, page A 5 were taken from the 30 October edition of Beirut's AN-NAHAR, pages 1 and 9:

On page A 5 between paragraphs three and four, insert:

[Question] In the amir's statement, there is a semblance of recognition of Israel. Is this true?

[Answer] Amir Fahd spoke of coexistence, and coexistence is something new because Saudi Arabia is speaking of or using the word coexistence for the first time. It is for this reason that I have said that the statement has positive points. We will discuss the details at the forthcoming summit.

[Question] Is the statement a step ahead of the PLO's political program?

[Answer] There are some points in the statement deriving from the spirit of the political program, but it is not a step ahead of it.

On page A 5 between paragraph seven and the subhead, insert:

[Question] If Israel has no intention of withdrawing from Sinai, on what basis then are some Western states contemplating participation in the multinational force in Sinai? Is there a European endeavor to rescue Camp David?

[Answer] This is a serious departure from European tradition. This is a European submission to American logic. This European submission to the American stand appeared after the Ottawa conference. It is a turning point in European history. Even ignoring Europe's historical and moral responsibility to us, it committed a grave sin after the Ottawa conference because the Americans had the upper hand at the conference.

The forthcoming Arab summit will be one of the most important summits so far. It will be a historic turning point for our Arab nation because we are facing challenges, beginning with southern Lebanon and ending with the remotest spot in the Arab world.

We are for the first time confronted by American-Israeli strategic cooperation which is not directed against me alone but also against those who call themselves friends of America, because Israel has changed its role from tool to partner. The Arab nation must answer this question.

BAHRAIN

INFORMATION MINISTER PRAISES SAUDI PEACE PLAN

GF031830 Ad-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 4 Nov 81 pp 1, 5

[Faysal al-Qaw dispatch from Bahrain]

[Excerpt] Bahraini Minister of Information Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad stressed that Saudi Arabia's strength is a strength for the Gulf and Arab nation.

In a statement to AL-YAWM on the occasion of the U.S. Senate's approval of the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia, he said that the U.S. Senate's approval of the deal proves that the U.S. Government, people and parliamentary institution understand Saudi Arabia's role and its efforts to achieve Arab rights.

He said: Saudi Arabia's balanced and moderate policy was behind the success of the deal. We are optimistic over the Kingdom's strength, which is a strength for the Arab nation and Islam.

I believe that it is a good initiative and hope that it will be followed by other initiatives. Answering a question from AL-YAWM on the Saudi peace plan, on Arab and international reaction in support of the plan, and on certain reservations that some countries had over some of the points in the plan and whether the plan will constitute a future formula for peace, the Bahraini information minister said: There is no denial that the Saudi plan for a Middle East peace has greatly helped in bringing about a relaxation in the Middle East crisis. International circles have begun to think seriously that this area can produce its own solutions -- solutions that are not imposed on it from outside.

KUWAIT

MINISTER OF STATE RETURNS FROM USSR TALKS

LD310918 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] Kuwait, 31 Oct (KUNA) -- 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, Kuwaiti minister of state for Cabinet affairs, returned to Kuwait last night following an 11-day visit to the Soviet Union, during which he held talks with officials on bilateral relations in various, particularly cultural, fields.

Praises USSR-Kuwaiti Relations

GF011901 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 1 Nov 81 p 2

[Text] Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn has praised Kuwaiti-Soviet relations. He has stated that the two countries are in agreement on many issues of common interest, foremost of which is the Arabs' first issue and their support for the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

At the conclusion of his visit to the Soviet Union, he noted: Our cultural relations will grow under an agreement signed between our countries. We hope that this accord and the sincere desire to cooperate will bring the two countries closer and will increase cultural cooperation and other social activities.

Answering a question by NOVOSTI NEWS AGENCY about Kuwaiti public reaction to the statement which the Soviet Government directed to the U.S. Government on the deterioration and gravity of the situation in the Middle East as a result of Washington's interference in Egypt's internal affairs, Mr 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said: We object to any foreign presence in the Gulf region or any other region in the Middle East. We believe that this will increase tension in the area to an explosive level.

Mr Husayn added: We support the Soviet statement which says that solving the complicated problems in the area is the responsibility of its countries. We also support the Soviet Government's proposal which calls for declaring the Middle East Region free of nuclear weapons. We, like the Soviet Union, sharply denounce the barbarian Israeli raid on the Iraqi nuclear installation last June where research on the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes was being carried out. Once again we say that Israel is persisting in its policies of expansion and aggression, continuing the arms race and is using nuclear energy for its own purposes. It is doing all that it can to obstruct the Arab nation's progress.

Mr Husayn described his visit to the Soviet Union as successful and very important. He said he discussed with the Soviet leaders issues of mutual interest. Mr Husayn expressed his admiration for Soviet achievements, particularly the achievements of Uzbek SSR, which has an ancient historic heritage and deep-rooted relations with the Arab world. It also has had a prominent role in graduating scholars and researchers who have made invaluable studies that have enriched both Islamic and international cultures.

The minister referred to the assuring situation of the Soviet Union's Muslims and their freedom of belief. He said this visit gave him and his companions the opportunity to acquire new knowledge and to make new acquaintances. It also gave them the opportunity to enhance friendship between Kuwait and the Soviet Union.

The minister returned home last night following an 11-day visit to the Soviet Union. During the visit, the minister held talks with a number of Soviet officials on enhancing bilateral relations in all fields, particularly in the cultural field. The minister also visited a number of large Soviet cities like Leningrad, Samarkand, Bukhara and Tashkent. During this tour, he became cognizant of the most significant features of progress and heritage in the Soviet Union. He also met with the Muslims' mufti, Sheikh (Muhyittin) Babakhanov.

The Kuwaiti minister will depart for Baghdad next Monday to attend meetings of the Arab ministers in charge of culture.

OMAN

ENVOY BEARS MESSAGES TO 5 AFRICAN LEADERS

GF011124 Doha QNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Text] Muscat, 1 Nov (QNA) -- An Omani envoy left Muscat today on a tour of five African states to deliver messages to their leaders from Sultan Qabus of Oman. The newspaper 'UMAN, which mentioned nothing concerning the contents of the messages, says that the Omani envoy, who is Omani Ambassador to Egypt 'Abdallah al-Ghazali, will visit Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Djibouti.

EDUCATION MINISTER RETURNS FROM QATAR VISIT

GF270707 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0533 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Muscat, 26 Oct (GNA) -- Yahya Mahfuz al-Mundhuri, the Omani minister of education, arrived in Muscat tonight from Doha following a 3-day visit to Qatar.

In a statement upon arrival, the Omani minister of education described his talks with the Qatari officials as successful and auspicious. He also referred to an educational and cultural agreement that was signed during the visit which is aimed at enhancing bilateral relations and the exchange of visits, expertise, studies and research in the educational field.

QATAR

AMIR DELIVERS OPENING SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT

GF021725 Doha QNA in Arabic 1105 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Doha, 2 Nov (QNA) -- His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of the State of Qatar, opened the 10th session of the Qatari Consultative Assembly in Doha today.

Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani delivered a comprehensive speech on this occasion in which he reviewed the most important achievements of the State of Qatar on both the domestic and external levels during the past year, Qatar's activities on the Arab, Islamic and international levels and the Qatari stand on current Arab and international issues.

Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani reaffirmed Qatar's support for the Saudi peace plan to resolve the Middle East crisis.

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the amir of the State of Qatar at the Consultative Assembly today:

Brother citizens, members of the Consultative Assembly. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In the name of almighty God I open the 10th ordinary session of the Consultative Assembly. On this occasion marking the beginning of a new year of your sincere and fruitful contribution in serving our dear homeland, I have the pleasure to extend to you my best wishes of success in carrying out this sacred duty and pray to almighty God to assist you in continuing your valuable contribution, together with your government, to achieve the national aims, pan-Arab and Islamic goals and humanitarian objectives we have pledged ourselves to attain.

With regard to our national policy, it is as you know, based on two fundamental facts, which developments in every area have made clearer and more solid. The first is that the way to safeguard the stability and security of states -- the two basic pillars of progress and prosperity -- is to build a sound and solid economy that makes the best use of the manpower and natural resources we posses. The second fact is that economic strength is the most solid bulwark of freedom and the strongest guarantee that safeguards the independence of nations, their sovereignty, rights and dignity.

With regard to our Arab and Islamic policy, it is based on the fact that we are an indivisible part of the Arab and Muslim world. We have inevitable and basic duties that fall within three interlinked and integrated frameworks: the first is the framework of our regional relations with Arab Gulf countries. The second is the framework of our relations with other Arab countries. The third is the framework of our relations with Muslim countries.

With regard to our regional Arab relations, our policy stems from the close ties of friendship that bind us with the Arab Gulf countries -- ties that are distinguished by neighborly relations and are strengthened by our joint and special need to coordinate among ourselves. There is no doubt that this coordination is the best way to attain a comprehensive and positive cooperation necessary for building the collective intrinsic strength toward which we aspire to provide further safeguards for our security, stability and prosperity. At the same time it is the best way to thwart any foreign interference and to foil all attempts to weaken our firm stand in insisting on not being aligned to either of the two superpowers. In insisting on such a stand, we aim at keeping our region free of superpower conflicts and competition.

Out of our conviction in the soundness of this policy, and the nobility of the aims we in Qatar are aiming to achieve, we believe that we should unite our efforts with the efforts of our brothers in the region in order to translate our collective aspirations into an appropriate formula so as to achieve the desired strengthening of ties and relations among us and achieve an integration in various vital fields.

I thank God almighty for the success granted us in realizing our cherished wish in the best manner. With the formation of the Gulf Cooperation Council of our six Arab Gulf countries on 25 May 1981, a body has been created which -- within the gradual process of development -- is the body most suited for our present conditions and consequently the most effective in ensuring its strength and continued growth. I pray to almighty God to complete his blessing and grant us success in achieving the aims of establishing the council in its present form, namely, to safeguard the methods of completing the factors for our total awakening individually and collectively, and to enable us to carry out our important national [qawmi] role in supporting our Arab and Muslim nation and in fulfilling our share in serving international peace and security.

As for our policy within the framework of our Arab relations, it springs from a certain fact and that is that the countries of our Arab nation are linked to each other by the ties of common interests, aims, dangers, pains, hopes, language, thoughts, struggle and a profound faith in the inevitability of integrated Arab action in politics, security, defense, economy and sociology. There are no peoples in the entire world like the Arab peoples that are bound by such ties -- ties that call on them to cooperate and unite their ranks to achieve their goals. There is no greater tragedy than our nation's fragmentation in this deadly manner, despite the existence of all the factors necessary to make it a single cohesive entity. In the face of such a bad situation, what should concern our Arab policy above all is to call for genuine action to revive the quiet brotherly dialogue that is urged by our religion and noble Arab customs.

Among the ugliest of Israel's criminal and repeated actions are its aggression against Iraqi nuclear installations last June, its continued treacherous and expansionist attempts in Lebanon and its continued violation of Lebanon's sovereignty and savage attacks on its territory and innocent population in implementation of a Zionist plan to strike at the Palestinian resistance and to obstruct the joint Arab and Lebanese efforts. We fully support these efforts and are doing all that we can to assist in achieving their objective; namely, to preserve Lebanon's unity and territorial integrity and protect its security, independence and Arabism.

The world has understood our Arab causes, foremost among which is the Palestinian and Jerusalem question, and has finally recognized the justice of this cause, having denied it for long. Undoubtedly, it is important that the international community support us -- having realized the extent of Israel's disregard for the will of the international community by persisting in its occupation of our territory and perpetrating the most hideous and savage crimes in these territories against their population. What is more important is that we support ourselves. We have great capabilities, which, if we sincerely cooperate and use these capabilities effectively in all political, diplomatic, economic and military fields, we would have the strength that will enable us to achieve victory for all our causes on the bases to which we all firmly adhere and which have been stressed by the Saudi initiative in its declaration of the baisc principles to resolve the Palestinian cause, the crux of these causes.

As long as our rights are supported by our strength, we are bound to win eventually. As for the strength of our enemies that is based on falsehood and injustice, it will not succeed in wresting final victory, even if it appeared temporarily victorious.

Our Islamic world is experiencing a sad tragedy in view of the state of collapse that is a result of the failure to coordinate its enormous capabilities. This failure has resulted in the humiliation we are suffering as a result of the treacherous aggression committed by our Zionist enemy against our territory, rights and sancities.

In this regard it is natural to refer in particular to the current conflict between Iraq and Iran and to the serious threat to the security and stability of our entire region that arises from the continuation of this conflict. Our greatest hope is that the efforts of the Muslim countries that stem from the Islamic Conference Organization and the efforts of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement countries will be crowned with success. We fully support all of these efforts and reaffirm our constant readiness to contribute toward their complete success.

Brother citizens, I shall refer now to our policy toward mankind. We have always been anxious to maintain that this policy is based on our belief that the international peace and security to which mankind aspires to establish the bases of close cooperation in a climate of amity and friendship among all the peoples of the world will remain threatened until mankind's efforts to liquidate colonialism and imperialism in all its forms everywhere are fruitful.

There is no doubt that the poverty and misery that are the lot of the developing countries at present are due to the present unjust world economic order that has been bequeathed by imperialist exploitation. The world today possesses the natural resources and technology that can provide an economic sufficiency that can be shared by everyone if these resources and technology are used within the framework of an equitable world economic order.

On our part, we feel that we are doing our duty to alleviate this injustice and to avoid its destructive consequences. It is sufficient to return to UN statistics to show that the State of Qatar is foremost among the countries of the world in making financial contributions to the world organization. It is also well known that, together with our brothers in the Arab Gulf oil-producing countries, our contribution to developing countries is -- in relation to our gross national product -- greater than that of other countries.

We hope that the enormity of the threat arising from the division of the world into two parts will prompt the world's leaders and thinkers to give to the establishment of a just world economic order -- to which mankind aspires and whose creation will solve the problem -- the attention it deserves, an attention that needs to be urgently translated into comprehensive measures that will ensure the achievement of the noble and far-reaching aims of the creation of such an economic order.

AR-RAYAH ASKS U.S. TO ADOPT 'BALANCED' POLICY

GF021924 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0810 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Doha, 2 Nov (ENA) -- The Qatari paper AR-RAYAH has called on the United States to adopt a balanced policy in the Middle East and to abandon its total bias toward Israel at the expense of Arab rights.

The paper said: "Israel was created to be the source of continual tension in the heart of our Arab homeland. As long as the United States remains committed to Israel, aiding its military apparatus, ensuring its supremacy and supporting its aggression, this source of tension will remain full of war, malice and confusion."

In its editorial, the paper expressed the hope that the United States would not kneel to Zionist blackmail, which reached its peak in Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's reply to President Reagan's message in which Reagan assured the enemy government of the U.S. commitment to Israel's technological and military supremacy following the approval of the sale of the AWACS to Saudi Arabia.

The newspaper has denounced Menahem Begin's message in which he attacked Saudi Arabia's peace plan and urged the U.S. President to reject the plan, regardless of the impact this rejection would have on U.S. interests in the Middle East.

The paper said Zionism is exploiting the approval of the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia to blackmail and extort President Reagan and his administration into rejecting Saudi Arabia's peace plan, which is so moderate and balanced that it drew attention and support from many sectors in the United States and Europe. It even drew attention and support from countries that used to reject everything except Camp David as the only way to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

SAUDI ARABIA

UK'S CARRINGTON ARRIVES IN RIYADH 3 NOV

GF031929 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Lord Carrington, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, today arrived in Riyadh on a 3-day visit to Saudi Arabia. He was received at the airport by His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign affairs minister; Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, Foreign Ministry under secretary for political affairs; Salim Sumbul, chief of the protocol in the Foreign Ministry; Shayky 'Ali as-Sugayr, director of the Foreign Ministry office in Riyadh; and several other officials.

During this visit the British secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs will hold talks with His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, dealing with all the current Middle Eastern issues in addition to exchanging views on issues of mutual concern and bilateral relations.

Meets King, Prince Fahd

LD041002 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0904 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Nov (SPA) -- His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Lord Carrington, British foreign minister and chairman of the current session of the EEC Ministerial Council, and his accompanying delegation at 1100 this morning at his office in the Al-Ma'dhar royal diwan.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; and His Excellency Dr Rashad Fir'awn, personal adviser to his majesty the king.

His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, received Lord Carrington, British foreign minister and chairman of the current session of the EEC Ministerial Council, and his accompanying delegation at 1115 this morning at his office in the royal diwan. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister.

'ARAFAT MEETS WITH KING KHALID, PRINCE FAHD

LD031114 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1045 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Riyadh 3 Nov (SPA) -- HIs Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at his office at the royal palace [words indistinct] received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and His Royal Highness 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, 2nd deputy dhairman of the Council of Ministers and commander of the National Guard.

'Arafat Leaves Riyadh

JN031913 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1845 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Riyadh -- Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] left Riyadh this evening after 4 hours of talks with Saudi King Khalid, Crown Prince Fahd, 2nd deputy Prime Minister Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Amir of Riyadh Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The two sides discussed the current Arab and international situations.

In a predeparture statement to AFP, the brother leader said he discussed with the Saudi officials the problems facing the region and the forthcoming Arab summit conference in Fes, in addition to the new Zionist military threats against southern Lebanon.

Brother Abu 'Ammar arrived in Riyadh this morning and was received at the airport by Amir of Riyadh Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and other senior Saudi officials.

UAE

PRESS ASSESSMENT OF U.S.-ISRAELI DIFFERENCES

GF021136 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0735 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Nov (ENA) -- Two newspapers here today comment on what appears to be a disagreement between the United States and Israel.

The newspaper AL-BAYAN calls on the Arabs to concentrate their pressure on the United States in order to minimize the influence of the Zionist pressure groups. On the other hand, the newspaper AL-WAHDAH sees that this disagreement is nothing but a theatrical play that conceals a new conspiracy against the Arabs.

Dubayy's AL-BAYAN says that the Israeli campaign against Prince Fahd's peace has now entered the critical stage and will from now on be directed toward the United States of America. This campaign is aimed at eliminating that aspect of the recent statement by U.S. President Reagan on the "presence of positive points in the plan" so the U.S. and Israeli positions will be the same without illustrating that the two sides had disagreed over the plan.

AL-BAYAN goes on to say that it would not be surprising if the United States withdrew this ambiguous hint on the "positive points in the Prince Fahd's plan." The history of U.S.-Israeli relations has witnessed several similar cases when previous U.S. administrations withdrew statements that did not please the Israelis.

The paper adds that once Prince Fahd's plan is adopted by the Arabs at their summit conference in Fes, there will have to be effective Arab pressure to confront the pressure of the Zionist groups. The paper notes that the campaign against the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia has proved that the influence of the Zionist campaign can be reduced, and results that displease Zionism can be reached by confronting its pressures with an equivalent Arab pressure.

The newspaper AL-WAHDAH says in its editorial that the Zionist attack on the U.S. stand in the wake of the failure of the Zionist groups to prevent the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia, must not let us forget the profound U.S. commitment to Israel's security and superiority and its commitment to supplying it with all its arms requirements and economic needs without necessarily having to go through any committees or arguments.

The paper then asks: What do the two sides want to achieve from this theatrical play that they insist on staging every now and then? It then says: We have been accustomed to the fact that following each U.S.-Zionist disagreement a nationwide aggression occurs. This play is the starting signal for this aggression, which may be against Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution in order to liquidate it and offer a Palestinian-free arena to the United States. Although this may deepen the U.S. predicament, it is likely to happen. Findley, member of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, said: Begin has a large capacity to commit fatal mistakes and this should be alarming to the Arabs.

The paper concludes its editorial by saying that the U.S.-Zionist disagreement is only an attempt to repeat stands that the Arabs have experienced and suffered from before. So the question is whether the Arabs will thwart the new plot that is hidden in this play.

PDRY

ATH-THAWRI ON ALLIANCES, U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE

EA311842 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Brothers: Today's ATH-THAWRI, organ of the YSP Central Committee, has published the following [words indistinct] under the headline "For the Sake of Cooperation and Peace."

The visit of Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and of the Council of Ministers, to a number of Arab and socialist states comes in the midst of a complex Arab and international situation. The American Administration and its supporters, namely Zionists and forces of local reaction, are beginning to step up their conspiracies aimed at [word indistinct] the Camp David accords directly or through new means that do not differ from them in substance.

In light of recent regional developments, the aggressive imperialist, Zionist and reactionary onslaught on our Arab peoples and their nationalist and progressive regimes and forces takes on (?atrocious) dimensions in respect to its aims.

In this connection, it is possible to (?observe) some examples of the escalation which characterizes the aggressive imperialist policy in our region. The main example is the continued intensification of the American military presence in the Middle East and the attempt to turn it, relying on some local reactionaries, into an effective tool for striking at any progressive nationalist move hostile to imperialism and its agents. The upcoming maneuvers which will include Egypt, Oman and Somalia are only a prelude to this.

The promotion of the policy of surrender characterizes the second [word indistinct] in that a number of statements have been released which indicate the possibility of the United States recognizing the PLO provided that the PLO recognizes the Zionist entity.

In the context of this Arab situation, which is characterized by tension and instability because of the continuation of the course of Zionist-American aggression, the course of Camp David, and the efforts to impose the hegemony of world imperialism politically, economically, ideologically and militarily on our Arab peoples in conflict with our national and pan-Arab interests, the visit of Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to the sister state of Kuwait takes on national and pan-Arab dimensions. This visit comes during the attempt to create an Arab stand hostile to the Camp David accords and to the aggressive policy based on intervention in the internal affairs of our Arab peoples [words indistinct].

The visit also has another significance which is represented [word indistinct] by the consolidation of brotherly relations that bind the two countries and which constitute a living embodiment of [word indistinct] (?cooperation) on the basis of mutual respect serving the national interests of the two peoples.

Within the context of this Arab situation and the current international situation, which is marked by the intensification of confrontation between the capitalist and socialist systems, the upcoming visits of the comrade secretary general to the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Bulgaria, constitute a continuation of the course of [word indistinct] militant alliance between our country and the states of the socialist camp and a reinforcement of the political, economic and cultural cooperation between our countries. All this represents an important factor in entrenching and developing the experiment of progressive construction in our country and provides the necessary resources for raising the standard of living of our toiling masses.

PFLO RADIO CONDEMNS 'BRIGHT STAR' EXERCISES

EA012100 Aden Voice of PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Excerpts] The United States and all its NATO allies in Europe view the Middle East from their own interests, on which they base their policies. They fear losing influence as a result of growing awareness among the peoples of this region who now know the source of dangers threatening them and who know who is persevering in plundering the wealth of the region, returning the people to the era of the pashas. For this reason the United States and its allies in Western Europe now believe that the use of force is the best way to protect their pillaging and exploitation of the wealth of the Arab region.

Many American officials, led by President Reagan and his secretary of state, Alexander Haig, say the object of threatening with force is to demonstrate America's capabilities to its friends among the rulers of the region, to show that the United States can help its friends. They should consider the United States a firm friend who will assist them when needed. Consequently, Washing on decided on extensive joint military exercises throughout this month, in which the American Rapid Deployment Force specially prepared for intervention in the Gulf region will take part. In addition other forces from the U.S. Navy, Air Force and other land forces will participate. Egyptian, Sudanese, Somali and Omani military forces are also to take part in the exercises, called "Bright Star."

These military exercises are no more than a trial run for U.S. forces, the aim being to test combat readiness. The claim that the exercises are aimed at helping the efficiency of the Egyptian, Sudanese, Somali, and Omani forces is only a pretext. Those who sold their countries before are now selling their troops or hiring them out to protect the master's troops -- the master being the Americans.

These reactionary Arab rulers have sold their (?peoples) in return for a handful of U.S. dollars, given to officials of these regimes who can justly be called America's Arabs. The rulers who inflict this national humiliation on our Arab peoples should be punished in a way similar to how the Egyptian people punished the great traitor, Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat.

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS -- Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad today appointed Shayi Muhsin as minister plenipotentiary and Awad Karamah as consul general at the Foreign Ministry. In addition, he appointed Awah Muhammad Jafar as deputy minister of local government. [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Nov 81 EA]

YAR

PRESIDENT RETURNS HOME FOLLOWING TOUR 1 NOV

JN011819 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, and his delegation returned to the homeland at 1400 today following a tour of several [words indistinct] and the Soviet Union.

LUXEMBOURG'S FLESCH MEETS WITH MUBARAK

NC031110 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 3 Nov (MENA) -- This morning, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received in Al-'Urubah Palace in Heliopolis Luxembourg's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Colette Flesch.

After the meeting, Colette [Flesch] said that her discussions with President Mubarak were extremely good and that it was an opportunity to acquaint the president with the role the European Community is trying to play and its way of thinking.

Colette [Flesch] added that the president acquainted her with his assessment of the situation in the Middle East and the course the peace process is taking within the framework of Camp David, as started by the late leader Anwar as-Sadat.

Answering a question on whether her discussions with President Mubarak included Fahd's peace plan, she said: We briefly dealt with that.

Concerning the president's appraisal of the plan, she said: His opinion was known, as he had previously declared it to the press. I told him that we in Europe view it as an important proposal worthy of study. I believe this was his feeling also.

Asked about the topic of the discussions, she said: Our discussions centered on the latest developments in the Middle East and the international situation.

Answering a question about the European Community's statement on participation in the Sinai multinational force, Colette Flesch said: We expect this statement in the next few days. The statement was supposed to be issued by now, but it was decided to wait until Lord Carrington's return from Saudi Arabia, after which the statement will be released.

Asked whether Lord Carrington's visit to Saudi Arabia would contribute toward promoting the peace negotiations with the participation of Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries, she said: I firmly believe that dialogue will always be important and useful. Therefore, I believe Carrington's visit to Riyadh is of great importance just as is my own visit to Egypt. Negotiations are always better than fighting.

On the delay in issuing the European Community's statement and whether difficulties were being encountered, Colette Flesch said: It was difficult to reach an agreement among the Community's 10 members. It has always been like this even on domestic questions because it is difficult to unify the views of 10 member states. Therefore, we should find a joint basis and this, I believe, is the problem facing us in issuing the statement.

On present relations between Egypt and the European Community, Flesch said: There is no big problem. We are fully agreed on the main questions of mutual cooperation. Yesterday I had more detailed discussions with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

On the results of her discussions concerning economic relations, she said: I believe we will continue just as we are doing now. I cannot deal on behalf of the 10 member states but I believe our cooperation will continue and we will try to consolidate it.

To another question about her impressions on meeting President Mubarak, she said: The meeting has had a very good effect on me. I did not have the opportunity to talk to him at our first meeting during President as-Sadat's funeral.

I appreciate and express my strong admiration over the calmness and strength with which President Mubarak handled the situation as well as over his pledges to continue the peace process and efforts initiated by the late leader within the framework of the Camp David accords.

Asked if she discussed the Palestine problem, she said: We discussed it because of its importance along with our discussion of the autonomy. The president affirmed to me in this respect that Egypt will continue the negotiations process and it's desire and insistence on maintaining efforts to reach good results in this respect.

Flesch Meets Press

NC031949 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Luxembourg Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Colette Flesch has stated that during her talks in Egypt she affirmed the support of the states of the European Community for Egypt's efforts to establish peace in the area. At a press conference held this evening, she said that she was pleased with her meeting with President Husni Mubarak with whom she held frank talks. She added that during her meeting with President Mubarak and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali she was briefed on the Camp David agreements as well as the results of the recent talks between Egypt, the United States and Israel.

The Luxembourg foreign minister said that she explained to the Egyptian side the recent developments within the European Community. She added that she felt an Egyptian understanding of the European role. She also said that the talks dealt with Egypt's and the European Community's viewpoints of Crown Prince Fahd's proposals, adding that the two sides have agreed that these proposals contain some positive aspects.

The Luxembourg foreign minister said that the participation of Italy, France, the Netherlands and Britain in the multinational force is considered a contribution toward the promotion of the peace efforts, in addition to the talks which the British foreign secretary is currently holding in Saudi Arabia. She added that the European Community will issue a statement in light of these talks.

GHALI COMMENTS ON LIBYAN WITHDRAWAL FROM CHAD

NC032137 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2108 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Paris, 3 Nov (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has commented on Libya's decision to withdraw from Chad. He said: Egypt welcomes the withdrawal of Libyan forces from Chad. It also welcomes the formation of an African force to replace the Libyan forces, as this is compatible with the resolution adopted at the African summit conference in Nairobi. Egypt is one of the states which is always keen on respecting and implementing OAU resolutions.

MENA REPORTAGE ON 3 NOV CABINET MEETING

NC031928 Cairo MENA in English 1900 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] 3 Nov (MENA) -- The Cabinet met today under President Husni Mubarak. Egypt's official spokesman Muhammad Haqqi said that during the Cabinet meeting Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali expounded Egypt's intensified diplomatic drive, as well as his recent visit to Israel and the agreements he concluded there.

'Ali stressed that the time-tables of the Israeli final withdrawal from the Sinai would take place according to schedule. However, he added that the celebrations marking the final withdrawal would take place on Sunday, April 26, instead of April 25, which coincides with the Jewish Sabbath, Haqqi said.

'Ali pointed out that Egypt was committed to the letter and spirit of Camp David regarding the normalisation of relations with Israel.

In this connection, he said that the normalisation department at the Foreign Ministry would be renamed the Egyptian-Israeli Bilateral Relations Department, Haqqi said.

Haqqi stated that Deputy Premier and Minister of the Interior Nabawi Isma'il reviewed the security conditions in the country since last June, underlining that the number of the terrorist organization members arrested up till now totalled 700, and that investigations were underway.

Isma'il stressed that the situation was under control and that cooperation was complete between security men and citizens.

'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid, the deputy premier for economy, gave a full account of the economic situation, Haqqi stated.

President Mubarak gave his instructions regarding the subsidies issue, and called for increasing production.

President Mubarak also gave his directives to the ministers, each in his domain, to draw up a working plan to which he commits himself.

The plan is to be submitted to the president within ten days from today. The cabinet also approved nine bills to realize discipline throughout Egypt. The bills are to be referred to the People's Assembly during its forthcoming session for passage and enactment.

CONSUMER GOODS OUTPUT, DISTRIBUTION TO EXPAND

PM031235 Cairo MAY in Arabic 26 Oct 81 p 7

[Unattributed report: "Committee for Planning and Food Security Decides on Increased Production of Food and Consumer Goods, Expansion of Cooperative Construction and Food Canning Sectors"]

[Text] It has been decided to increase production of food and consumer goods to meet local consumption requirements. At the head of the list of goods are cigarettes, soap and industrial cleaning agents. The committee for planning and food security held a joint meeting with the ministers of industry and supply to consider the supply situation, as they do periodically, and to prevent shortages of basic goods. The meeting was chaired by Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din. The plan submitted by the minister of supply to increase the number of consumer cooperatives in Cairo and to expand the facilites for distributing goods was approved.

The plan calls for the number of sales outlets in Cairo to reach 800 by the end of 1985 instead of the 337 cooperatives which exist now. The new cooperatives will cover all sections of the greater Cairo area. The plan also calls for expanding the establishment of mobile and stationary sales outlets as well as kiosks for distributing goods in areas lacking permanent sites.

The committee charged the minister of supply with the responsibility of contacting the appropriate ministry to plan for centers to set up the cooperatives in companies and government agencies and to plan for available space nearby, as well as facilities for establishing main storage centers in areas which are currently deficient. He was also charged with supplying the central warehouses with modern equipment to facilitate storage and distribution operations.

The committee also asked that the minister of supply expand the canning foodstuffs in order to facilitate sales, maintain cleanliness and variety and eliminate crowds at the cooperatives.

ABU GHAZALAH DISCUSSES SUDAN, MILITARY, AWACS

NC040920 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 4 Nov (MENA) -- Minister of Defense and War Production Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah has confirmed that there is no secret organization within the Egyptian Armed Forces and that the main broad base is completely sound and free of flaws and religious dissidents.

Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah adds that if those terrorists who took part in the assassination of the late leader Anwar as-Sadat had a secret organization, the picture would have changed on 6 October following the assassination of the late leader and the members of the organization would have seized the opportunity and completed their plan of overthrowing the whole regime and setting up a system ruling with terrorism, bloodshed, liquidations and executions as happened in Iran.

In an interview published today in the weekly magazine AKHIR SA'AH, the defense minister says that strict security measures have been adopted and that a comprehensive survey of the armed forces and their commands has been carried out to ascertain that they are sound following the assassination.

The defense minister also affirms that there was no relaxation or shortcomings in guarding the late President Anwar as-Sadat's stand. He says that the element of surprise, along with the fact that gunfire began the moment the Mirage aircraft were flying overhead, helped greatly in implementing the attack.

Regarding the purpose of the recent Egyptian-U.S. maneuvers, Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah says that the maneuvers amounted to a joint operation between our forces and a battalion of the U.S. airborne forces known as the Rapid Deployment Force. The purpose of the maneuvers was to provide new experience in tactics and in the rapid airborne systems. He added that this is done in Europe and elsewhere so the joint forces can gain advanced experience and benefit from one another.

Lieutenant General Abu Gahazalah says that there are no Egyptian concentrations on the Libyan border and that there never were. He adds that the forces present there are the forces necessary for defense against any foreign intervention. He says that President Husni Mubarak has confirmed that we have no concentrations and no plans for attacking Libya and that we have absolutely no such intentions.

On the two U.S. AWACS aircraft, the defense minister says that our strategic position dictates that our air force be in a constant state of readiness. This costs us a great deal and affirms our need for this type of aircraft. Their temporary presence in Egypt achieved joint benefits in exchanging information, in addition to training Egyptian technicians in these planes.

Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah affirmed that the alleged presence of Egyptian forces in Sudan or on the Sudanese-Chadian border were mere rumors spread by certain quarters and that there are no Eygptian forces deployed in Sudan or on its border. However, by virtue of the historical relations between Egypt and Sudan and the joint defense pact, we are committed to enter the battle alongside Sudan against any foreign invasion at the request of the Sudanese Government.

He adds that an Egyptian military mission of officers and noncommissioned officers is in Sudan to train the Sudanese forces on certain equipment and arms and that similar missions are in Somalia, Oman and some Gulf states.

The defense minister says that Egypt and the United States have agreed on a 5-year armaments plan apart from the other deals which were contracted before and are now being implemented.

Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah says that there have been contacts with Washington to shorten the delivery time to meet the Egyptian Armed Forces requirements to confront the burdens they are shouldering. Therefore, we have asked that the delivery time for arms be advanced.

At the end of the interview, the defense minister affirms that we will not be confined to U.S. arms. We have excellent relations with France, Britain and other European states in this field so that we will not fall under any pressure or blockade.

NEGOTIATIONS HELD TO GET U.S. ANTITANK MISSILES

NC032301 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2228 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Cairo, 3 Nov (MENA) -- Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen Muhammad 'Add al-Halim Abu Ghazalah has stated that Egypt is holding negotiations to obtain the U.S. TOW antitank missile system to install on French Gazelle helicopters.

In a statement to be published by AL-AHRAM tomorrow, Wednesday, Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah describes this stage as a step in the modernization of the Egyptian Armed Forces and one of the positive results of the Cairo military exhibition which opened last Saturday and ended today.

Abu Ghazalah adds that the TOW missiles will increase the capability of the Egyptian Air Force in fighting tanks. He also says: The fact that the TOW missiles is in service now in the Egyptian Armed Forces will simplify the operations of supply and training and the maintenance of this missile, which is produced by the U.S. Hughes Company and is deployed in 30 NATO states.

EFFORTS TO CAPTURE TERRORIST LEADERS ACCELERATED

NC032322 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2235 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 3 Nov (MENA) -- In tomorrow's editions, the Cairo papers report that the security organs are intensifying their efforts to tighten the grip on the remaining fugitive terrorist leaders so as to arrest them as soon as possible.

AL-AHRAM says that members of the extremist religious organization known as AL-JIHAD, who were arrested in the past few days, have made confessions, including new information about the organization's elements, its terrorist activities and contacts.

AL-AKHBAR says that the arrested members have given information about the weapons which they threw in canals and drainage ditches or put in cemeteries to get rid of them after having ascertained that all their plans and hideouts had become known. The paper says that the frogmen and rescue units of the Interior Ministry have picked up the weapons from the canals and drainage ditches in the outskirts of Cairo and seized the weapons which the fugitives concealed in graveyards. The paper quotes an official of the Interior Ministry as saying that the internal front is completely calm and that there was no longer a danger to be feared from these terrorist groups.

On the other side AL-AHRAM reports that the socialist prosecutor general, Counsellor 'Abd al-Qadir Ahmad 'Ali, is now evaluating the cases of those detained, each separately, in the light of the investigations conducted with them. These cases do not require further action to adopt final measures. The paper quotes the socialist prosecutor general as saying: The investigations conducted with the detained members of the Islamic Groups and the Society of Renunciation and Repudiation [Takfir] will end this month. The investigation will then start with other groups that have not yet been interrogated or whose interrogation has not been completed.

HUSAYN EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE AFTER TALKS

JN032005 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn ended his talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan this evening following the second and last official session of talks which was attended by the members of the Jordanian and U.S. delegations.

Bidding farewell to His Majesty King Husayn on the White House lawn, President Reagan said the talks had been frank and constructive.

His majesty thanked President Reagan and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to meet with him at this critical turning point, which, he said, affects the future of the region and many common objectives and interests.

His majesty described the talks as frank and open on all issues of common interest. He said that following his return, he will convey his impressions to the Jordanian people and his brother Arab leaders in the region. Addressing President Reagan, his majesty said: We share the hope for a better future and a just and comprehensive peace in the region. For our part, our wish is to safeguard the freedom and identity of the Arab nation and to ensure a better future for succeeding generations.

Concluding his speech, His Majesty King Husayn said: Soon we will return to our country. I tell you that compared to all my previous visits and meetings in Washington, this particular meeting, at this particular time, has given me more confidence in and reassurance about the future.

Following his meetings at the White House, His Majesty King Husayn had lunch at the residence of U.S. Vice President George Bush. His majesty will spend today and tomorrow in meetings with many members of the Senate and the House of Representatives in the U.S. Congress.

After midnight tonight Jordan time, his majesty will attend a dinner hosted in his and Her Majesty Queen Nur's honor by Jordanian Ambassador in Washington 'Abd al-Hadi al-Majali.

Radio Elaborates

JN031956 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] In his first meeting with President Reagan, His Majesty King Husayn underlined the dangerous situation in the Middle East. His majesty stressed that the present threat is directed against not only Arab rights and legitimate interests but also the Arab identity and the rights of future generations.

This clear explanation of the situation emphasizes that any settlement of the Middle East crisis must be based on justice and that any peace the world wishes to bring about in the region must be founded on the coming Arab generations' right to defend their interests, rights and national identity.

In his meeting with Haig, His Majesty King Husayn also stressed that it is Israel that is blocking the peace course. His majesty emphasized that Israel's determination to continue the occupation of the Arab territories and its persistent attempts to impose the status quo have always constituted, and still constitute, an obstacle to achieving a settlement. Though professing peace, Israel is determined to continue its occupation. Though publicly maintaining the importance of achieving a settlement, Israel is practicing against the Arab citizens and Arab territories a declared policy of expelling the population and Judaizing the land.

As the issues of peace, justice and freedom are indispensable, His Majesty King Husayn defined in his talks with the U.S. secretary of state the only basis for the establishment of peace -- a complete Israeli withdrawal.

Israel, however, has since its occupation of the Arab land been refusing this withdrawal. On the contrary, it has been blatantly Judaizing the Arab territories, manifest primarily in building settlements and by arresting and expelling thousands of Palestinian citizens.

Jordan. which has always been eager for good relations with the United States and to further promote and strengthen these relations, is built on some of the same values and principles on which the U.S. nation's existence is based and which characterize our Arab nation as well. Jordan has desired to preserve these relations with the United States under all circumstances based on the belief that Washington will fulfill its complete role in the search for peace, a peace which the U.S. nation wishes to establish on the basis of justice and right.

Although the U.S. stance has for many years been on the side of Israel, Jordan has continued to believe that the United States would restore the required balance toward the Arab-Israeli struggle and that the United States would surely shoulder its full responsibilities as a superpower toward the issue of peace in our region, a peace which constitutes an integral part of world peace.

Peace in the Arab region, as His Majesty King Husayn defined it to President Reagan, depends on several factors and principles Jordan has always cherished and the Arab [words indistinct] in any search for peace and a just settlement.

First, Jerusalem is an Arab city; and therefore it is necessary to return Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty in any settlement of the Middle East crisis.

Second, the Palestinians who were expelled from their land and those who are still being oppressed under the occupation are the owners of the cause, its substance and essence and, hence, must fully participate in any search for a just settlement.

Third, all values, principles and charters stipulate the peoples' right to establish their own state on their own land and their right to practice complete territorial sovereignty. The Palestinians like any other people, are fully entitled to return to their land, to establish their own state and exercise their sovereignty.

What is needed is U.S. eagerness to perform a balanced role in the Middle East crisis. The U.S. Administration should realize that what King Husayn is saying constitutes not only a Jordanian stand but also an Arab stand which has always expressed the desire to establish such a peace in which justice is the best guarantee to ensure its perpetuation and comprehensiveness.

AR-RA'Y Editorial

JN040904 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 4 Nov 81 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "Dangers and Opportunities in Region"]

[Text] With optimism and confidence for the future, His Majesty King Husayn and President Reagan concluded their official talks yesterday in Washington.

President Reagan described the talks as frank, constructive and comprehensive. He said the talks dealt with the dangers and opportunities in the Middle East and that he and King Husayn agree on many issues, including the need to make progress toward a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, and the grave dangers threatening the security of the region and the need to work together to tackle these issues.

We would like to point out here that the gravest dangers threatening the security of the region are represented by Israel's continued aggression and settlement policy, which seek to change the demographic nature of the occupied Arab territory, as well as the disavowal of the Palestinians' right to freely determine their own destiny on their usurped land.

As for the opportunities available to avert these dangers, they are mainly represented by U.S. pursuance of an evenhanded policy on the issue characterised by adherence to values, principles and justice above anything else. We are not exaggerating when we say that a U.S. policy with such characteristics will effectively contribute toward opening new vistas for improving Arab-U.S. relations and setting the bases for a just and honorable settlement of the issue leading to the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

His Majesty King Husayn has explained to President Reagan that there is neither a minimum nor maximum Arab stand. What exists is a clear unified Arab stand calling for Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the Palestinians right to freely determine their own destiny on their usurped land.

Undoubtedly, the presentation of this unified stand leaves no room for any compromise and makes the U.S. Administration understand that Arabs know what they want.

What remains now is for the U.S. Administration to assume its responsibility toward the issue in light of the facts which His Majesty King Husayn outlined and explained clearly and frankly.

If Washington is fortunate enough to benefit from these facts and build its policy on their basis, then the United States will be able to play a constructive role, which will be recorded by history, in achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the region and promoting security and prosperity in this region and in many parts of the world.

TIMES: CARRINGTON VISIT, FAHD PLAN DOVETAIL

JN040815 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 4 Nov 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Happy Travels"]

[Text] The visit to Saudi Arabia this week of Great Britain's foreign secretary, Lord Carrington, comes at a time when a dovetailing of the EEC and the Saudi Arabia peace proposals for the Middle East would do everybody a great deal of good. It is an instructive lesson in the dynamics of power to note the world's different reactions to the European and the Saudi initiatives. When the Europeans came forth with a highly reasonable and balanced set of principles on what must be in an ultimate Arab-Israeli peace settlement, most of the world took in the event in stride, hardly flapping an eyelid. While there was Arab interest in the European position, it basically reflected an Arab yearning for new initiatives from outside the region that would hide the lack of similar initiatives from within the Arab world.

When the Saudi initiative was presented, however, it took on a far greater importance. The reason is that a coherent peacemaking initiative from the Arabs -- and especially the Arabs who have plenty of oil -- is many more times more powerful by nature than any initiative -- a combination of hysteria and hallucination -- is evidence enough that it is a highly significant move by the Saudis and, by extension, by the Arabs as whole.

A meshing of the Saudi and Euorpean initiatives into a combined Euro-Arab project would provide the kind of face-saving device that the Americans, and the Egyptians later on, will soon require to shift out of the going-nowhere Camp David talks on Palestinian administrative autonomy and into a more realistic negotiating forum. The Israelis will, of course, refuse any such reasonable approach, but we suspect they cannot forever ignore the will of all the rest of the world. We wish Mr. Carrington well on his trip.

SALAH KHALAF, OTHERS ADDRESS CP RALLY IN BEIRUT

PM031517 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 26 Oct 81 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Central Mass Rally Held by Communist Party on 57th Establishment Anniversary; Abu Iyad says: 'We Reject an Arab Solidarity Aimed at Reverting to As-Sadat's Line. Libya Supports Us All and We Will Fight Alongside Its People To Ward Off Any Aggression'"]

[Excerpts] The Lebanese Communist Party yesterday celebrated the 57th anniversary of its establishment. It held a central mass rally in the town of Barja in the district of Al-Kharrub. Speeches were delivered at the rally by the Communist Party, the Lebanese National Movement, the Palestinian revolution and the Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization, AALAPSO.

The rally was attended by Communist Party leader Nicola Shawi, the members of the party Politburo, many of the leaders of the Lebanese National Movement and the Palestinian resistance led by Abu Dawud [Muhammad Dawud 'Awdah], and a Cuban delegation.

The celebration, held in the square of the Ad-Dimani club in Barja, began with a speech by rally master of ceremonies Habib al-Khati , who said that Al-Kharrub district shall remain loyal to the principles of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, the leader of the Arab revolution, and to the struggle and blood of martyr Kamal Junblatt. He said: "Despite the fact that this area is being deliberately neglected, it will not retreat from its national and pan-Arab role."

The first speech was delivered by Melba Hernandez, head of the Cuban delegation and representative of the AALAPSO secretary general. She begun by greeting the Lebanese Communist Party on its anniversary and by emphasizing AALAPSO's support for the just struggle of the Lebanese people. She said that this people "have suffered from the aggressions of imperialism and its protege Zionism, but we are confident that, under a wise revolutionary leadership, they can create the necessary unity to set up a structure of national independence."

Hernandez then referred to the "aggressions which U.S. imperialism is launching against peace-loving peoples, such as our brothers, the Syrians, the Libyans and the Palestinian people." She said: "The Palestinian people are persistently and solidly continuing their just and valiant struggle under the leadership of the PLO, their only legitimate representative, to attain their inalienable national rights. We are confident that they will triumph and join the free states which are building happiness for their people."

Hernandez enumerated the acts of aggression which U.S. imperialism has committed against the peoples of Namibia in southern Africa, people's Angola, Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos. She said: In Latin America, the people of El Salvador and Guatemala are valiantly struggling to triumph and build a new society, like socialist Cuba, which is building this society under the leadership of the Cuban Communist Party and Comrade Fidel Castro.

The head of the Cuban delegation concluded her speech by saying: AALAPSO emphasizes to our brothers, the Lebanese communists, that we shall strengthen our solidarity with the just struggle of the Lebanese people.

Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf, Fatah Central Committee member] delivered a speech on behalf of the Palestinian revolution. He began by greeting "our comrades on the long road. It pleases me to congratulate everybody on this day which is our day. The precious blood our comrades in the Communist Party have offered makes us say very proudly and respectfully that this day is also a day of the Palestinian revolution."

He said: During the present phase, this celebration acquires particular importance. We have experienced 4 lean years during which the traitor Anwar as-Sadat, who went to Jerusalem and brought historic shame down upon the Arab nation and the Egyptian people, tried to attack the Palestinian revolution. However, the heroic struggling Egyptian people decided, through one of their groups, to eliminate this shame. This group executed As-Sadat and so ended a complete phase of treasonous policy which sought to link Egypt to the United States and Israel.

He added: As-Sadat is gone and the Egyptian people have come to celebrate this day with us. A phase is over and a policy has ended, but there are many As-Sadats in this Arab homeland and there are many "shahs" in this homeland. Therefore we have to continue the struggle so that the Egyptian people will triumph against all As-Sadat's survivors who insist on following his line, like Husni Mubarak. Those who take pride in As-Sadat's line must experience his fate.

Abu Iyad went on to say: There are voices in the Arab homeland that say that we must bring Egypt back to the battle and to Arab solidarity. We tell them: Down with this policy if it means that As-Sadat's line returns to the Arab ranks and that traitors are rewarded for their treason and renegades for their apostasy.

He added: We do not accept Husni Mubarak's maintenance of As-Sadat's line, period and treason; we only accept an Egyptian ruler like 'Abd an-Nasir. They do not scare us with Israel's withdrawal or nonwithdrawal from Sinai. This is not important to the Arab nation so long as the land of Palestine -- the land of the Arab people -- continues to be disgraced by the Zionist enemy and the American onslaught. The cause of Palestine is the cause of every Arab. Therefore it is not a question of a few kilometers in Sinai or elsewhere; the question is the basic issue. Nobody can deceive our people by voicing here or there slogans of Arab solidarity and Arab fraternity and calling for patience to be shown to Husni Mubarak and for him to be given a period of 6 months to return [to the Arab ranks].

Abu Iyad added: We shall not be patient with him for even one day. Either he is a feeble and insignificant continuation of the As-Sadat period or he must renounce the As-Sadat period completely. The land cannot be regained by capitulation or treason. Only men and heroism can regain it.

He said: Palestine has now been occupied for over 30 years. We have been steadfast and patient because the Arab people from the [Atlantic] -- Ocean to the Gulf are with us. With us are the great Lebanese people, who have offered us their own children, blood and affection. They have given us everything despite our excesses; despite the mistakes, the great Lebanese people have protected us. Let some of the Arabs in the Maghreb and elsewhere understand that neither the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese National Movement, every progressive nationalist in Lebanon, nor the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front can accept a return of As-Sadat's line under slogans of Arab solidarity and fraternity.

He said: We have stood fast for 4 years. They tried to wipe us off the political map. Despite this, the National Movement and the Palestinian revolution stood fast, as did Syria and the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. Now that As-Sadat has been defeated and his policy and line have ended, they are seeking by subterfuge and sweet words to restore treason to the Arab ranks and to revert to conspiracies and capitulation. We say again: No. Never shall this policy return on the initiative of any state. We believe that our line in confronting Israel and its agents is sound. This line is the established fact in the Arab homeland.

Referring to the American threats against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Abu Iyad said: On this basis, we say "No" to the challenges being made by the imperialist-Zionist alliance.

I tell Libya and Brother Colonel al-Qadhdhafi: We are with you during this revolutionary phase -- with you with all our forces and with everything we have, because we are aware that you are facing American and Israeli threats, as well as the Sudanese threat voiced by the stooge Ja'far Numayri. We call upon the Sudanese people to rise against him just as the Egyptian people have risen against the new traitor.

He added: They are trying to threaten Libya. We tell them that Libya no longer belongs to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi alone, nor does it belong to the Libyan people alone; it belongs to us all, to us all, to all revolutionary and progressive Arabs. We mean this, despite the heavy burden placed on our shoulders. We and the Lebanese National Movement are prepared to fight alongside the Libyan people and with the Libyan leaders to repel any conspiratorial aggression by the small traitors backed by the United States, which is trying to unnerve Libya, Algeria, democratic Yemen, Syria, the [Palestinian] resistance and the [Lebanese] National Movement by means of the maneuvers it is staging in the Mediterranean.

He said: As a Palestinian revolution, our primary task is not to compromise, capitulate or pay any attention to illusions. Our policy is a continuing revolution and national unity that surmounts all obstacles and excesses. Our duty is to punish spies within our ranks and those who are plotting against the revolution by virtue of their excesses. We promise you that we shall act diligently to repudiate these groups which try to infiltrate the Palestinian revolution and to harm it in the eyes of the Lebanese masses.

He added: We absolutely reject attacks on our Lebanese people by Israel or the isolationist forces; similarly, the Lebanese people should not be subjected to the gunfire, bombs and shrapnel or groups belonging to the same movement and the same trench. The Lebanese people can no longer tolerage seeing a group of the Palestinian revolution fighting against any group of the National Movement. From this meeting place, I believe I can speak on their behalf as a comrade and ask the nationalists in the Amal movement, in whome we have confidence, to extend their hands to their comrades in the Communist Party. Let us end this fighting, which benefits no one but the enemies.

He added: We are all in the same trench -- the Amal movement, the Communist Party, the National Movement, the Palestinian revolution and all honest forces. We must deepen this trench and defend it with our eyes and hearts. We shall never allow any agent of the deuxieme or any other branch to infiltrate this unit, because on the basis of this cohesion we can extend our hand to others in the Arab homeland and the world.

Abu Iyad went on to say: I tell all those who have illusions and who are trying to fabricate a battle between the Palestinian revolution and Syria that none of these deluded people can disturb the strong relationship between us and Syria. Together we fought As-Sadat's line and the Camp David treaty and we have fought together in Lebanon for the sake of Arab Lebanon and the progressive [Arab] east. This togetherness is stronger than any detail or all the small agents who are trying to drive a wedge between us and Syria. We understand this relationship as a strategic one and we will not allow any person in the Arab homeland to come between us and Syria.

Abu Iyad called for the coordination and cohesion between the resistance, Syria and the National Movement to be unequivocally clear and for no attention to be paid to trivialities and details. He said: When this alliance exists, we can speak about the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and about strategic relations with the socialist community and the Soviet Union. Should this alliance collapse or weaken, we would not be able to speak about steadfastness or the tripartite bastion.

Abu Iyad concluded his speech by saying: We extend our hand to Libya and Algeria; we extend our hand to the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front so that it will remain an unshakable bastion in the Arab homeland. Through this bastion, we approach our biggest bastion, the great Soviet Union, and the socialist community, saying: We are not friends merely in words but comrades in struggle and on the long road.

[Nadim] 'Abd as-Samad [Lebanese Communist Party Politburo member] began his speech by emphasizing: "Our party has acted on its convictions throughout the past historic phase. The party's second conference was a culmination of its revolutionary and struggle traditions and an important stage on the road of its struggle; during the conference it made a critical review of its heritage so as to confirm the continuation of its line of struggle and to assume a higher level of responsibility with regard to the great cause to which it has committed itself."

'Abd as-Samad said: "Hostile forces have intensified their conspiracy and criminal acts on the eve of the presidential elections. It is as if they seek to achieve three objectives by the election date: Ensuring that the national areas fall into the hands of the army-Phalangist alliance; curtailing the role of the Syrian forces operating within the Arab Deterrent Forces, and decreasing or completely eliminating the Lebanese nationalist and Palestinian presence in the south through the deployment of UN emergency forces northward as far as Az-Zahrani. When all this is achieved, the only thing that will remain for the American-Saudi-Israeli-isolationist administration to do is to appoint a new president who will rule through the present factional army."

'Abd as-Samad then moved on to speak about the Arab situation. He said: "The assassination of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat has thrown the United States into confusion and prompted it to engage in further plotting. This has been evident from the fact that the United States is resorting to threatening aggression, moving its fleets and inciting its direct agents, like the murderer Ja'far Numayri, to provoke the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah with a view to attacking the positions of Arab steadfastness and presenting Arab and Western European alternatives."

Referring to the Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's plan, 'Abd as-Samad pointed out that it is one of the most dangerous alternatives put forward, and it threatens to drag the Arabs through the Saudi door so that they follow the same line pursued by As-Sadat.

He warned of the "seriousness of the line that is being pursued by the Saudi rulers." He said that "the real solution comes through a firm and persistent struggle to strengthen the position of the Arab national and revolutionary forces, to strike at the imperialist positions in the area and to liberate Arab oil from the control of the monopolies."

'Abd as-Samad said: "We are experiencing a phase in which the international socialist community, led by the Soviet Union, is the decisive force in the development of the international situation. Now more than ever before any people, large or small, can successfully confront the imperialist schemes if they decide to struggle relentlessly against those schemes and if they consolidate their alliance with the Soviet Union and the socialist community."

VOL ON CLOSURE OF AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN BEIRUT

NC031321 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] The Australian Embassy in Lebanon was again closed today and its four diplomats left Beirut for Damascus. The embassy's first secretary informed the Foreign Ministry of this closure -- which will last for a short time -- on the basis of new instructions from the Australian capital.

It should be noted here that the Australian ambassador has been residing in Damascus for the past 2 years. The embassy's closure is due to security reasons because of Australia's participation in the multinational peacekeeping force in Sinai.

AL-KASM REPRESENTS AL-ASAD AT CLUB DINNER

JN032144 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpt] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad held a dinner at the Ash-Sharq Club this evening in honor of the Arab and Islamic delegations participating in the first Syrian week of the Koran recitation competition. Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm represented his excellency the president leader at the dinner, which was attended by the minister of religious trusts, other ministers, the mufti of the Republic, men of religion and the Arab and Islamic diplomatic corps.

TISHRIN COMMENTS ON CAMP DAVID PROCESS

JN030954 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 3 Nov 81

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Under the headline "The United States Is in a Hurry," TISHRIN says: U.S. President Ronald Reagan is in a great hurry. No sooner had the U.S. Senate approved the AWACS deal to Saudi Arabia and no sooner had Husni Mubarak stated his readiness to visit Saudi Arabia or any other Arab country, than U.S. President Ronald Reagan started inviting Arab countries to join in the Camp David accords, which he terms the peace process in the Middle East. BBC says the second stage in the Camp David process entails expansion of negotiations, specifically bringing the so-called moderate Arab countries, including Saudi Arabia and the Palestinians themselves, into the peace process. BBC adds: It appears that the assassination of the Egyptian president has expedited matters.

The U.S. appeal to Arab countries to join the Camp David process is an old one and is not President Ronald Reagan's production. Jimmy Carter, who engineered the signing of the Camp David accords, had previously called upon all the Arab countries and then upon what are called moderate Arabs to join the alleged peace process. This call, however, failed to attain positive results because the Arab countries, which had adopted resolutions rejecting the Camp David accords at the Baghdad and Tunis summit conferences, kept their word with regard to these resolutions, because U.S. policy on the pan-Arab issue has remained unchanged and because the experiment had proven that the Camp David accords were one-sided, serving only the interests of U.S. imperialism and Israel and contravening legitimate Arab rights concerning Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied territories.

When the U.S. Administration calls on Arab countries to join the Camp David accords, it will be calling on them to leave the Arab fold and free themselves from the resolutions adopted at the Baghdad and Tunis summit conferences. Had the U.S. call failed prior to the failure of As-Sadat, the symbol of the Camp David accords in the Arab arena, these accords would be in no better position. Any Arab ruler who entertains the idea of negotiating Reagan's call must take into consideration As-Sadat's fate and the Arab masses' stand on the Camp David accords. The Arabs rejected the Camp David accords because they are hostile to peace, contravene UN principles and resolutions and are directed against the pan-Arab issue. There is nothing new in the accords or in the policies of the partners that dictates a reconsideration of the stand on these accords. Irrespective of the U.S. Government's threats, intimidation and of the carrot and the stick policy, it will remain powerless to save the Camp David accords from the strangling regional and international crisis engulfing them.

KNESSET POLITICAL DEBATE, BEGIN REMARKS

TA031826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 3 Nov 81

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Excerpt] Our Knesset correspondent, Arye Golan, reports:

[Golan -- live] On the 2d day of the political debate in the Knesset the prime minister did not refrain from shooting arrows of controversy at the chairman of the Labor Party, Shim'on Peres. There is no truth in the claim MK Peres made yesterday that Begin had only spoken with President Reagan in Washington about strategic cooperation, Mr Begin said, and he went into detail about the issues of his talks during his last visit to the United States. As for the AWACS affair and the Saudi Arabian plan, the prime minister said: We are not playing at being mad at each other; that is not our policy; and he told the Knesset about Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's upcoming visit to Washington.

[Begin Begin recording] I think the Knesset will hear this announcement with satisfaction, because this matter is very important for us, very important for the Free World; I think this is for the benefit of both countries, who have no written agreement and nevertheless there is both cooperation and friendship between them and even an unwritten pact is sometimes more important than a written one. [end recording]

[Golan] With regard to the problem of Lebanon: It is possible to sneer, it is possible to bring up quotes, Begin told Shim'on Peres, but on this matter the government is acting with restraint. There is a promise by the U.S. President for a renewal of the status quo ante and envoy Philip Habib, scheduled to return to the area soon, wants us to wait and allow him to act.

[Begin Begin recording] It is true that we can destroy the Syrian missiles in Lebanon within 2 hours and I want to tell the Knesset -- without boasting and with knowledge of the facts -- we can do this without incuring casualties in the air force. We can do this. But when the U.S. President's envoy comes along and says, give me time, I want to remove them, that is what the president is talking about when he refers to the status quo ante he wrote you about. So should we hurry to bomb them and destroy them?

I want to tell the Knesset something most serious. If those missiles were preventing us from making reconaissance flights over Lebanon, we would not wait for any visit from anyone. But, it is true that they are causing us some troubles; not only do I not deny that fact, I confirm it -- they still permit us to make reconaissance flights over Lebanon and we are making them almost every day or every few days. So we will wait for him and see what he brings with him now. If there is no other alternative, we will definitely destroy them. [end recording]

[Golan] Later on, an almost traditional argument developed between the prime minister and the head of the opposition about the Jerusalem option. Shim'on Peres quoted, off the cuff, Ben-Gurion who had said that all experts were experts in what had happened, not in what would be, and Peres added: even prime ministers. Begin at once tried to correct Peres.

[Begin Begin recording] No, on the contrary, Shim'on, you have made a mistake about what Ben-Gurion said. What has happened to you? He said exactly the opposite: There may be expertise about the present and even about the future; even God himself cannot change the past and certainly not an expert man. That is what he said. If I must correct Ben-Gurion's words for you, this is really a special event. [end recording]

BEGIN SATISFIED WITH U.S. REASSURANCES

TA041212 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] The Reagan Administration has promised to continue to adhere to the Camp David accords as the sole way to obtain political arrangements in the Middle East. The United States will also honor all the decisions reached during the prime minister's last visit to Washington. This was sent from U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig to Prime Minister Menachem Begin through the U.S. Embassy charge d'affaires in a meeting held this morning at the prime minister's office in the Knesset.

It was reported to our political correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, from the prime minister's office that Mr Begin was satisfied with the U.S. explanations.

Political circles in Jerusalem have said that it appears as though Israel's position was understood in Washington. According to this position, Israel could decide not to participate in the political process if the United States deviates from the Camp David accords and adopts other plans such as the Saudi one.

MOSHE ARENS TO LEAD KNESSET DELEGATION

TA041010 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] The joint Likud-Alignment parliamentary delegation will depart for the United States either next week or, at the latest, in 2 weeks. This is reported by our correspondent, Razi Barqay. It will number eight people, half from the Likud and half from the Alignment. In Washington, the Knesset members will meet with top members of the State Department, with congressional leaders and with people who shape U.S. public opinion. It will be headed by chairman of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committeee, Moshe Arens, who is designated [as heard] to be Israel's next ambassador to Washington.

Alignment To Join Delegation

TA031417 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] It has just now been reported that the Alignment faction has decided to join the Knesset delegation to explain Israel's opposition to the Saudi Arabian plan and other political matters in the United States and other countries. This is on condition that the Alignment will also be permitted to explain its position.

ARENS 'APPARENTLY' TO BE NEXT AMBASSADOR TO U.S.

TA031625 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] The chairman of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, Prof Moshe Arens, will apparently be Israel's next ambassador to the United States. Our political correspondent Shimon'on Schiffer reports that deliberations on this matter were held not long ago. MK Arens is the candidate preferred by the prime minister and the foreign minister. Ambasssador Efrayim 'Evron will conclude his term in Washington within a few months.

No Official Comment

TA031951 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Israel's ambassador to Washington will retire from his post in 2 months and will be replaced by Prof Moshe Arens who agreed to undertake this position. Likud faction sources reported that if Arens is indeed the next ambassador to Washington he will be replaced as chairman of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee by MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar.

The Jerusalem Foreign Ministry this evening refused to comment on this report. Our political correspondent, Elimelikh Ram, reports that next month Efrayim 'Evron will have completed 3 years of service in Washington and that he will retire from that position after a period relatively short compared to his predecessors.

BEGIN ANNOUNCES DEFENSE MINISTER'S TRIP TO U.S.

TA031549 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1525 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] We will now return to the Knesset. The prime minister, who is speaking now, has announced from the Knesset podium that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon will go to the United States at the end of this month. We now go to Moshe Hakohen in the Knesset:

[Hakohen -- live] Mr Begin, during his speech, in the midst of an argument with the Alignment, whose speakers yesterday sneered at the agreement achieved in Washington between Israel and the United States on the matter of strategic cooperation, has told the Knesset that today an invitation from U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger was received -- an invitation to Minister Sharon to go to Washington on 30 November to discuss an agreement on the issue of the strategic cooperation.

Before that, a delegation headed by Maj Gen Avrhaam Tamir will go to Washington to prepare for the visit and Mr Begin said the intention was to reach a significant agreement between Israel and the United States. The prime minister has now ended his speech. In conclusion, he asked the Knesset to approve the appointment of David Levi as deputy prime minister, an appointment that has only been approved by the Cabinet and has not gained the Knesset's official seal of approval.

BEGIN DISCUSSES MISSILE SITUATION IN LEBANON

TA031542 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpt] The political debate in the Knesset plenum is approaching its conclusion. Here is Moshe Hakohen, our Knesset correspondent:

[Hakohen -- live] Good evening to you from the Knesset. Right now the prime minister is concluding the political debate. He is replying to the 26 speakers who preceded him. It seems that the most significant section of Mr Begin's remarks so far deals with the situation in Lebanon: Let us hear it:

[Begin Begin recording] It is true that, today, we can destroy the Syrian missiles in Lebanon within 2 hours and I want to tell the Knesset -- without boasting and with the knowledge of the facts -- we can do this without incurring casualties in the air force. We can do this. But when the U.S. President's envoy comes along and says, give me time, I want to remove them. That is what the president is talking about when he refers to the status quo ante he wrote you about. So should we hurry to bomb them and destroy them? We can do that. I imagine that if we were to do this -- a few weeks ago or yesterday, or today -- because of the reprimand MK Peres tried to give me, go over those missiles and destroy them, what would happen in this Knesset on that side [the opposition benches]? Why are you in such a hurry? After all, you are pouring oil on the fire. You are inciting war. Who knows how Syria would react to that. [end recording]

[Hakohen] The prime minister added that if the Syrian missiles were jeopardizing Israel's security and disturbing the air force in its flights in Lebanese airspace and over Syria, Israel would not hesitate for a moment before attacking them. The debate in the Knesset is still continuing; the prime minister is still speaking and everyone is waiting for the vote and the presentation of the various draft conclusions.

EYTAN DISCUSSES TERRORIST BUILDUP, ARMS TO ARABS

TA031224 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpt] The Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee has met with Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan this morning for a review of military developments in the region. Two issues discussed were the continuous rearmament and buildup by the terrorists in southern Lebanon and the supply of U.S.-made weaponry to Iraq. Reporter Alan Ben-'Ami says there is firm proof that U.S.-supplied weapons have been reaching Iraq in the main via the port of Al-'Aqabah. They include ammunition, antitank missiles spare parts for armored vehicles and electronic and communication equipment.

HA'ARETZ REACTION TO CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

TA031108 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Nov 81 pp 1, 4

[Report by the military correspondent]

[Excerpt] Israel has begun signaling Washington that it will no longer tolerate terrorist activity in southern Lebanon and that it may now react quickly to violations of the cease-fire in the area. This signaling should be linked to the worsening of Israel's military-political standing, which has been demonstrated in Washington's indirect support for the Fahd plan.

It was reported yesterday that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon toured southern Lebanon and met with Major Haddad in his headquarters, in Lebanese territory. Sharon was accompanied, at his request, by Chief of Staff Eytan, the commander of the Northern Command, Amir Drori, as well as other senior officers. The reason why this special meeting was held and one of the major topics for discussion was the violations of the cease-fire by the terrorists and the fact that arms are being funneled to them and their large-scale entrenchment work. It has been reported that the meeting was intended to decide the moves to be taken in view of these violations by the terrorists.

AS weill be recalled, Major Haddad has compalined a number of times about terrorist sabotage activity, but he has so far abstained from reacting, primarily because of Israeli pressure. Reports have also been published on clashes between terrorists and UNIFIL as the UN forces were attempting to prevent infiltrations of Haddad's territory.

It should be noted that the violations of the cease-fire by the terrorists began immediately after the agreement had been reached, and that in the early stages there were more violations. Sharon wants to focus attention on the situation in southern Lebanon, this should be conceived of as being connected with the larger scale military-political situation. In addition to the sale of the AWACS to Saudi Arabia and the dispatch of vast quantities of arms to that country, the cancellation of Minister Sharon's visit in Washington together with a delegation of major generals on the strategic cooperation should be also taken into account, as should the possibility that a decision on selling additional modern weapons to Jordan.

Above all, what is disconcerting is the State Department's indirect support for the Saudi "peace plan" which Israel regards as most destructive to bilateral relations. It should be noted that this atmosphere was noticeable during the latest meeting between U.S. Ambassador to Israel Sam Lewis and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, in which the charge d'affaires and the military attache were also present.

HA'ARETZ ON SAUDI STATUS AMONG ARAB COUNTRIES

TA031150 Tel Aviv HA'ARAETZ in Hebrew 3 Nov 81 p 11

['Oded Zaray commentary: "Prestige Without Purpose"]

[Text] Saudi Arabia managed to achieve in the United States what it has failed to do within the inter-Arab arena for many a year. While the significance of the Arab oil superpower in the eyes of the White House under Reagan is growing compared with previous administrations, including the last one, President Carter's, there has been no change in the weight the Saudi royalty carries in the Arab world. This is how things seem to appear from an Arab viewpoint after the approval of the AWACS deal by the U.S. Senate. Even though the approval of the deal has raised the Saudi prestige in its own eyes, this status will probably remain without a purpose because no change has occurred in the fundamentals characterizing Riyadh's inter-Arab standing. This estimate might be reinforced in the upcoming Arab summit meeting in Morocco, in which the Saudi monarchy will once again stand a test.

The great satisfaction that came after the approval of the deal was shared not only by Saudi Arabia, but by most Arab countries. The opinion of the Saudi defense minister, Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, as presented to the media late last week, as well as commentaries in the Saudi press usually reflect the trends of thought in the Arab world. Amir Sultan regards the approval of the deal as a victory of U.S. national interests. The approval, he said, shows for the first time that the U.S. decision was independent of immense and hostile pressures geared at subordinating U.S. foreign policy to another country's expansionist inclinations (and he means Israel). Amir Sultan regarded this as heralding a change for the better in U.S. public opinion, the U.S. public wanting to reach an understanding regarding the Middle East and the political facts there according to Saudi Arabia's concepts -- Saudi Arabia constituting a prime prop for the legitimate Arab rights.

The Saudi leaders as well as other Arab leaders do not focus on the deal itself and its necessity -- militarily and strategically -- for the sake of curbing Soviet penetration into the region, to state an example, as much as they emphasize the political victory over Israel and its influence in the United States. One Saudi court-sponsored newspaper, AL-JAZIRAH, wrote that Saudi Arabia succeeded in bringing about a great political victory for itself and the Arab nation throughout the world because President Reagan finally realized that the Zionist influence is merely a rocking horse that can be smashed when U.S. interests take top priority. Another royal newspaper, AN-NADWAH, said that the approval of the deal is part of a wide-scale attempt to correct the strategic imbalance that began to be discernible between the military power of the Arab nation and the "Zionist enemy." A Riyadh radio commentator also maintained that the results of the Senate vote demonstrate that the United States has begun to comprehend the great international responsibility it is shouldering by moving away from any Zionist lobby influence and blindly supporting what is called Israel's security.

Riyadh attaches greater importance to the political victory in what the Arab world terms "the campaign over the United States" than it does to the nature of the deal in terms of military aspects, even if it is ultimately aimed at correcting the violation of the military balance vis-a-vis Israel. The satisfaction expressed by the Saudi royal house stems from the "defeat fo the Zionist lobby" and this it considers to be an achievement that can even be presented before the inter-Arab world. The Saudi propaganda contends that this victory is greater than all the "achievements of the Palestinian revolution in the last decade." For the first time ever, Saudi Arabia has been trying to appear in the inter-Arab arena not only as the financier and the behind-the-scenes supporter of the "Arab national cause," but also as the one which scores substantial achievements of its own accord. It should be noted that this philosophy of waging "a campaign over the United States" -- namely that the most efficient way of fighting Israel is by tipping the U.S. scale in favor of the Arabs at Israel's expense -- is shared by most of the Arab countries called "moderate" or "conservative."

However, in spite of all the above, it is difficult to assume, as a result of the AWACS approval deal that any substantial change will occur in Saudi Arabia's standing in the international front. The AWACS aircraft and the complementary and sophisticated equipment for the U.S. combat aircraft that will be given it within the next 3 years cannot provide the royal house of Saudi Arabia with an ability to lead, determine things or change any move by any Arab country whatsoever. On the contrary, the presence of the AWACS only increases the expectations among the Arab confrontation states that Saudi Arabia will be incorporated in a much more practical sense in the moves against Israel.

One should bear in mind that Saudi Arabia's current status in the Arab world is founded primarily on its readiness to tow the line of the extremist positions against Israel, and this was clearly manifest in the Baghdad summit held in November 1978 following the peace initiative of late President as-Sadat and even earlier, during the Rabat conference in 1974, in which the status of the PLO was agreed upon to be "the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians."

Thus, it only stands to reason that Saudi Arabia can be numbered among the staunchest opponents of the Camp David agreements and headed the Arab camp that demanded santions on Egypt. In this regard one need only recall the content of President as-Sadat's speeches reviewing the developments in the Arab world since his visit to Jerusalem in November 1977. SAudi Arabia has never succeeded in changing or preventing a move by an Arab leader. It only managed in good time to either join in that process or not oppose it. This holds true for the story about the cease-fire along the northern borders in July. In fact, the PLO needed the cease-fire while Saudi Arabia gave it the proper framework for it, as per its request. Not only this, but Saudi Arabia was also the first country that -- on the very day the cease-fire went into effect, 24 July -- transferred 100 tons of arms, ammunition and military equipment to the PLO in Lebanon, as a first dispatch intended to resupply the terrorist organizations with what they had lost as a result of the wide-scale IDF operations in southern Lebanon.

In the domestic Saudi scene, opposition elements, including the urban strata, the students and young amirs not closely associated with the royal family regard the AWACS deal as "a crying waste of state resources." They hold that their country does not need such sophisticated and expensive systems, mainly because they "enhance the dependence and involvement with U.S. imperialism." The AWACS deal might also increase the scope of corruption in Saudi Arabia, which encompasses various elements inside the royal family or close to it. It is similarly assumed that the Saudi regime, which has not yet freed itself of the shock brought about by the overtaking of the Ka'aba Mosque 2 years ago, will have to step up the oppression campaign across the country in order to block attempts by opposition elements to exploit the AWACS deal in order to undermine the legitimacy of the ibn Sa'ud Dynasty. In any event, the AWACS deal cannot stop internal Saudi focii of ferment from operating, nor can it turn Riyadh as the "pillar" of the peace processes in the Middle East.

LIBYA

ATTACK ON AL-QADHDHAFI PLANNED FOR 10-15 NOV

LD032332 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Confirmed information published by several Arab and foreign news agencies, newspapers and radios reveals that an offensive plan aimed at the leader of the revolution will be executed between 10 and 15 November. This will coincide with the provocative military maneuvers which the forces will carry out west of Egypt.

This information, which has been confirmed by the Greek papers RIZOSPASTIS, AVRIANI and AVGI, by the Kuwaiti AL-WATAN, the magazine AT-TALI'AH, published in Arabic in Paris, and by the Syrian AL-BA'TH, and by many Arab and foreign news agencies and radios quoting diplomatic circles, says that the plan is principally aimed at Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by striking at all the places where the leader of the revolution is believed to be.

According to the confirmed information published by world information media over the past 2 days, preliminary measures will precede the operation, starting with strategic bombing by B-52's at a certain area inside Libyan borders.

U.S. PLANS TO INTERVENE IN SUDAN, OMAN, SOMALIA

LD031738 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] UPI has reported that the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force formed an air bridge between the United States and Egypt to transport forces taking part in joint maneuvers. The agency reports that a number of U.S. transport aircraft yesterday arrived in Egypt carrying military and communications equipment to be used in the maneuvers. It points out that this airlift involves about 450 trips by C-141 transport and the huge C-5 aircraft.

The U.S. State Department yesterday announced that Somalia and Oman have officially joined Egypt and Sudan to take part in the military maneuvers being held by the U.S. forces in the Arab region starting next week for 1 month.

The Voice of America radio service has mentioned that these maneuvers will be taking place with each country separately and a few thousand U.S. forces will be taking part in them in addition to U.S. air support in which strategic U.S. B-52 bombers will participate.

It is clear that the sea landing on the shores of Oman and Somalia, and the parachute landing in Sudan will not be (?an exercise) landing, as U.S. officials point out. However, the U.S. forces to be landed will stay to secure the regimes of Sudan, Oman and Somalia, since these regimes serve U.S. and Zionist interests. Information and reports stress that America will militarily intervene in the three countries under cover of these maneuvers.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI CONTACTS MOI ON LIBYAN WITHDRAWAL

JN031903 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Nov (SUNA) -- President Numayri today sent a written message to Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi, chairman of the OAU, following statements attributed to the commander of the Libyan forces in Chad saying that he has been ordered by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi personally to withdraw the Libyan forces from Chad. The text of the message is as follows:

Your Excellency Brother President Daniel arap Moi, president of the Republic of Kenya and OAU chairman: We learned a short while ago, from statements attributed to the commander of the Libyan forces in Chad, that he has been ordered by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi personally to withdraw the Libyan forces in Chad within 2 or 3 days. We also learned that the withdrawal of military equipment has actually begun.

If these reports prove true, the OAU is expected to exert major efforts so that the Libyan forces' withdrawal in this manner will not prompt some who oppose this withdrawal to exploit the absence of Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei, who is attending the Paris conference, and subject Chad to the danger of civil war.

Brother president, we totally agree with you that the OAU should move quickly to thwart those who proclaimed their opposition to the Libyan withdrawal from Chad and who, as reports have said, intend to impede this withdrawal and embroil Chad in a new battle against its supreme interests and OAU resolutions.

Sudan, which proclaimed to the entire world its total readiness to help the brother Chadian rebuild what was destroyed by the war and contribute to the expenses of the African peacekeeping forces, reiterates that the critical stage through which the fraternal African countries are passing requires all assistance from peace-loving countries to enable them to escape the woes of a savage war that has been planned without taking into consideration its consequences.

We support you in every action taken by the OAU to enable Chad to avoid the woes of war and destruction. We clasp your hand and those of all world states for acting quickly to ward off the dangers threatening Chad at this time. We would like to proclaim that Sudan places all its resources at the disposal of the OAU to share in this necessary and urgent action.

Brother president, please accept my sincere appreciation.

[signed] Your brother, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, People's Palace, Khartoum. Tuesday, 3 November 1981

TUNISIA

AFP: NATIONAL FRONT COALITION WINS ELECTIONS

NC0314[illegible]0 Paris AFP in English 1439 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Tunis, 3 Nov (AFP) -- The national front coalition between Tunisia's ruling Neo-Destour Socialist Party and the country's biggest trade union, the UGTT, made a clean sweep of all 23 constituencies in Sunday's general election, it was announced here today.

No candidates from the three main opposition groups were elected to the 136-seat National Assembly in Tunisia's first multi-party general election since independence 25 years ago.

The coalition obtained 94.6 per cent of all votes cast and the three opposition groups got a total of 5.22 per cent, Interior Minister Driss Guiga said.

None of the three -- the Tunisian Communist Party, the Socialist Democrats Movement and the Movement for Popular Unity -- separately obtained the five per cent of the vote needed for official recognition as a political party.

The three had denounced the voting results in advance, charging that there were "scandalous pressures and irregularities" at many polling stations and that their representatives were prevented from supervising the balloting. The government denied the charges.

Final official figures showed that 1,962,127 or 84.5 per cent of Tunisia's 2,321,031 eligible voters cast ballots, compared with 80.75 per cent of the electorate that voted in the last legislative elections in 1979.

The Socialist Democrats scored 3.28 per cent of the vote, the communists and the Movement for Popular Unity each obtained 0.78 per cent and three lists of independents scored a total of 0.35 per cent. A total of 20,169 ballots were spoiled.

The new deputies are to serve for five years.

Losers May Retain Standing

NC031718 Paris AFP in English 1657 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Tunis, 3 Nov (AFP) -- Tunisian Interior Minister Driss Guiga today indicated that the three opposition groups which failed to win a single parliamentary seat in last Sunday's general election may be officially recognized as political parties.

Mr Guiga said the rule that the groups had to obtain five per cent of the vote to obtain such recognition was not "a legal constitutional condition" but rather "a political indicator."

Tunisian head of state Habib Bourguiba is to make the final decision on the matter, Mr Guiga told reporters here.

Previously, Tunisian authorities had said that a political group had to obtain five per cent of the vote in the poll, the first multi-party general election ever in an independent Tunisia, to be recognized as a political party. None of the three came close to that mark.

Mr Guiga reiterated government denials of opposition charges of "scandalous" irregularities in the vote, which resulted in a clean sweep for the ruling Destourian Socialist Party and its trade union partner.

"All phases of the election occurred in normal conditions and all political groups benefitted from the facilities accorded to them by law," he said.

The three groups rejected the results of the vote in advance and charged that their representatives were prevented from supervizing polling at a number of stations.

The opposition was responsible for any "difficulties" that occurred during the vote, Mr Guiga said.

"These elections were a success for the regime of President Bourguiba and for the new process of democratization which achieved an important step with this puralistic vote." he said.

CHAD

AL-QADHDHAFI ORDERS TROOPS TO LEAVE COUNTRY

AB031452 Paris AFP in French 1440 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 3 Nov (AFP) -- Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has ordered Libyan troops stationed in Chad to leave the country immediately, it was announced in Ndjamena on Tuesday by a Libyan military source.

Troops Seen Leaving

AB031605 Paris AFP in English 1555 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 3 Nov (AFP) -- Libyan troops and armour were today seen leaving Chad on the orders of Libyan leader Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi for an immediate withdrawal.

The orders came in response to last week's request from Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei for an end to the 11-month Libyan military presence in his country.

President Goukouni, currently in Paris for the Franco-African summit, invited the Libyans in at the end of the last year to help him defeat rebel former Defence Minister Hisseine Habre in civil war.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi telephoned personally to the commander of his troops in Ndjamena and the surrounding area, Colonel Radwan Salah-Radwan, who was talking to foreign journalists in his office here at the time.

The Libyan commander blanched visibly then, with the telephone receiver still in his hand, told the press corps, it is an order from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. We must leave Chad immediately -- within two or three days.

Shortly afterwards a number of Libyan military trucks were seen being loaded into a Soviet-built Ilyushin heavy transport aircraft at Ndjamena airport. Jeeps, radar equipment and two Soviet-made tanks were also waiting to be airlifted out.

At the same time more than 50 Libyan troops, carrying their kit but unarmed, were seen boarding a Libyan airliner which runs a regular service between Ndjamena and Tripoli.

Colonel Radwan said that more aircraft were expected later today to continue the evacuation, which Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had told him should be completed within two or three days.

The Libyan commander refused to say whether this period applied only to the troops in Ndjamena and the surrounding area, which President Goukouni stipulated should go immediately, with the rest to follow before the end of the year.

To pull out the whole Libyan garrison, estimated at up to 10,000 men, from the 80 percent of Chad it is thought to occupy, could take several seeks, observers said.

Chadian authorities had apparently not been officially notified of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's orders. At any rate no Chadian official was noticed at the airport here to see the first Libyan contingent depart.

Airlift Continues

AB040947 Paris AFP in French 0924 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 4 November (AFP) -- The airlift established on Tuesday between Ndjamena and Libya, following Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's decision to withdraw the Libyan troops from Chad, resumed on Wednesday morning after having continued until nightfall on Tuesday, AFP's special envoy at the Ndjamena civilian airport noted.

As early as 0800 local time (0700 GMT), military material (reconnaissance planes, jeeps, machine-guns) were lined up near the central runway while 1 hour later, an Ilyushin-76 of the Libyan Arab airlines landed on the same runway. The loading operations immediately began.

The man in charge of the Libyan Air Force, Colonel Rifai, arrived in Ndjamena on Wednesday morning to take part in the operations of withdrawal of the Libyan forces. On Tuesday, two Ilyushins and two DC-8 planes left Ndjamena civilian airport with military equipment and about 400 soldiers.

PRESIDENT GOUKOUNI DISCUSSES CHAD'S DIFFICULTIES

PM021337 Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese 24 Oct 81 p 11 (international supplement)

[EFE interview in Algiers with Chad President Goukouni Oueddei -- date not given]

[Text] Question: Do you think current domestic conditions in Chad make possible the withdrawal of Libyan troops stationed there?

Goukouni Oueddei: We have no problems inside the country, but we have difficulties on the border with Sudan, where the situation requires the Libyan presence. Moreover, Libyan troops came to Chad at our request. They should have returned to their country some time ago, once their mission was carried out. It is, therefore, the threat which we are undergoing which causes the Libyans to remain in Chad.

Question: The problem of Chad seems to have created some difficulties between traditionally friendly Algeria and Libya. What is your opinion on this matter?

Goukouni Oueddei: What you are saying is news to me. As far as we know, there is no misunderstanding between Algeria and Libya over Chad. I repeat that we have no knowledge of this.

Question: So what is Algeria's attitude toward Chad?

Goukouni Oueddei: It has been very positive from the outset. Algeria, like a large number of African countries, favorably views the intervention by Libyan forces to end the civil war raging in the countrya year ago. On the other hand, Algeria, like other countries, is in favor of a gradual withdrawal of the Libyan forces once their mission has been carried out.

Question: Is it true that French military advisérs will be sent to Cameroon to reorganize and train the officers and NCO's of Chad's new army there?

Goukouni Oueddei: We have heard nothing to that effect either from France or from Cameroon. We know that Cameroon is prepared to help us to reorganize our army but, on the other hand, there has never been talk of French advisers coming to the Republic of Cameroon to train Chad's Army.

Problems of OAU

Question: Why hasn't the inter-African military force which was supposed to replace the Libyan troops in Chad to keep the peace, in accordance with the last OAU summit's advice, been organized yet?

Goukouni Oueddei: We did, in fact, discuss the sending of that force to Chad at the OAU summit. The organization's chairman mentioned a number of countries which should supply military contingents for that force. But Madagascar said that it will not send troops because of its own difficulties. The Republic of Cameroon is prepared to help us train Chad's National Army in preference to sending a force. Only Algeria, Senegal and Nigeria are left. We believe that these countries will attempt to answer the OAU's appeal but I can also tell you that the OAU lacks material means for sending that force. This is the current situation on the sending of the inter-African force which is being hoped for so much by the Chad people.

Question: What is the situation on the much talked about merger between Chad and Libya?

Goukouni Oueddei: In January, following my official visit to Tripoli (Libya), we mentioned in a press communique a merger between Chad and Libya. This news was condemned everywhere in the world and we, of the Chad Government, reacted sharply to completely deny what is termed a "merger," in the way the world interpreted it. Since that time, our stance has remained clear: In the current state of affairs, there is no reason to speak of a merger between Libya and Chad. A merger between two or several states entails, in the first place, consulting the people. We are not in a position to hold a referendum or public and democratic elections to determine the Chad people's opinion and stance on that merger. If the people declare themselves in favor, it will be welcome. But if not, there can be no talk of a merger between Libya and Chad.

Question: Do you believe that the dissimilarity between the two currents which came together to form Chad's transitional National Union Government [GUNT], which you head, could give rise to further internal disagreements in your country?

Goukouni Oueddei: There are no differing viewpoints in the GUNT but, of course, among friends and brothers each has his own opinions. But despite its difficulties, the GUNT now is succeeding in embracing all Chadians' viewpoints to attempt to rebuild the country's economy. So there are no deep misunderstandings among the members of the government.

French Aid

Question: The French Government stated that it has a moral duty toward Chad. Do you believe that behind that statement is a desire not to have Chad under other countries' influence?

Goukouni Oueddei: No, I do not believe so because Chad is a sovereign and independent country. If France wishes to lend the GUNT its moral and material assistance, I believe that it is not seeking influence because my country is, above all, sovereign and independent. For that reason, it should cooperate with other countries without any precondition.

Question: What form will the French Government's financial and technical aid for the GUNT take?

Goukouni Oueddei: President Mitterrand assures us that France will take part in rebuilding Chad. This entails several forms of aid -- first of all, economic and financial aid, next, material aid in health, education, communications, electricity, water and so forth.... We have enormous problems since all the key sectors of the state have been destroyed and need to be completely rebuilt. At any event, the French aid has yet to take shape. Thus, I cannot cite the specific matters on which there will be cooperation.

Question: What consequences, in your opinion, will Egyptian President as-Sadat's death have for Africa, Chad and the Arab world?

Goukouni Oueddei: As-Sadat's death will bring about a radical change in Egyptian policy, in my opinion. We want the new Egyptian president to change his policy toward Chad and the Arab world. We noted that not many countries of the Arab and African world were present at As-Sadat's funeral. This should indicate to new President Husni Mubarak that he should change his policy.

GOUKOUNI'S DOMESTIC POSITION CALLED 'NOT STRONG'

AB021620 Paris AFP in English 1553 GMT 2 Nov 81

[By Bernard Degioanni]

[Text] Ndjamena, 2 Nov (AFP) -- Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei's decision to ask the Libyans to withdraw from Chad has boosted his international credibility, but his position at home is not nearly as strong, observers said here today.

The call for an end to the Libyan troop presence by the end of the year will calm the fears of other African states over Tripoli's designs and be seen as a sign of a desire to find national unity in Chad, the observers commented.

However, it did not mean that President Goukouni could now count on broad political and military support, the observers said. Only an integrated national army, succeeding the proposed pan-African peacekeeping force, could ensure his authority, they predicted.

The National army is still at an embryo stage, though troops of the private armies of some of the various factions have been receiving military training together in Ndjamena. The military police which maintains security in the capital also consists of different elements, but that is far from being the sign of the unity which 20 years of independent and 15 years of civil war have so far failed to achieve.

Vice-President Colonel Kamougue Wadel Abdel Kader conceded at a press conference today that while unity of the armed forces posed no problem within the ranks it was a different matter with the faction leaders.

The faction leaders occupy key posts in the transitional government of national unity, with President Goukouni commanding the Popular Armed Forces (FAP), Colonel Kamougue the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT), Foreign Minister Acyl Ahmat the (pro-Libyan) Democratic Council of the Revolution (CDR) and Interior Minister Mahamat Abba Said the First Army.

Their apparent support of the president's line -- a part from Mr Ahmat -- surprised observers, who noted chat fighting between the CDR and the First Army had taken place less than 150 kilometers (90 miles) from Ndjamena as recently as mid-October.

And in spite of appeals from unity from every minister they are not yet prepared to give up certain privileges they feel are theirs. Each one has his own troops to guard him and none has yet indicated how many soldiers he would make available to the national army.

While most of the capital's ordinary citizens have surrendered the arms they possessed at the end of the civil war in 1979 the various factions have increased their military potential.

The withdrawal of the Libyans -- if it happens -- and the arrival of the pan-African force are expected to be only stages on a long road, where internal problems will once more take the limelight from the international aspects of the Chadian conflict.